

## PLO security man killed

AMMAN (AP) — A lone assassin shot and killed a Palestinian security officer Wednesday as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative in Jordan remained in coma for a second day after an assassination attempt in this port city. Police said Hassan Hourani, 39, who belongs to the PLO's mainstream Fatah faction was gunned down at 9:15 a.m. (0715 GMT) as he rode his motorcycle near the vegetable market in downtown Amman. "The assassin, firing from an automatic rifle, riddled Hourani with several bullets in the head and chest. Death was instantaneous. The assailant escaped," said a police spokesman. Only 20 hours earlier, PLO representative Issam Saleh, 48, was shot in the head and shoulder at a gift shop by a gunman wearing a plastic mask. The would-be assassin also escaped. Police said they have no explanation for the anti-Palestinian campaign which also included a rocket-propelled grenade attack on Saturday against the home of Zaid Wehbi, PLO spokesman in Sidon. Wehbi and his family escaped unhurt.

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## U.S. wants formal PLO action

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States said Wednesday Yasser Arafat's statement declaring the 1964 Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) charter obsolete could be a "step in the right direction" and challenged him to back it up with a formal vote of the Palestine National Council (PNC). "We see this as a reinforcement of his prior statement acknowledging Israel's right to exist," State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said of the PLO chairman's remarks on French television. She said a decision by the PNC "formally amending or abrogating the charter would be the kind of action we would certainly applaud." Arafat said Wednesday the decision by the PNC last year to recognise Israel had rendered the charter "null and void." Tutwiler, asked for U.S. reaction, said: "Such a statement, if it is backed up in words and deeds, is a step in the right direction."

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## King returns after talks with Fahd

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein returned to Amman from Saudi Arabia early Wednesday following a brief visit during which he performed the Umra pilgrimage in Mecca and held talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

King Hussein joined worshippers for prayers at Mecca and he visited the Prophet Mohammad Mosque in Mecca and performed prayers along with the Jordanian delegation accompanying him on the visit.

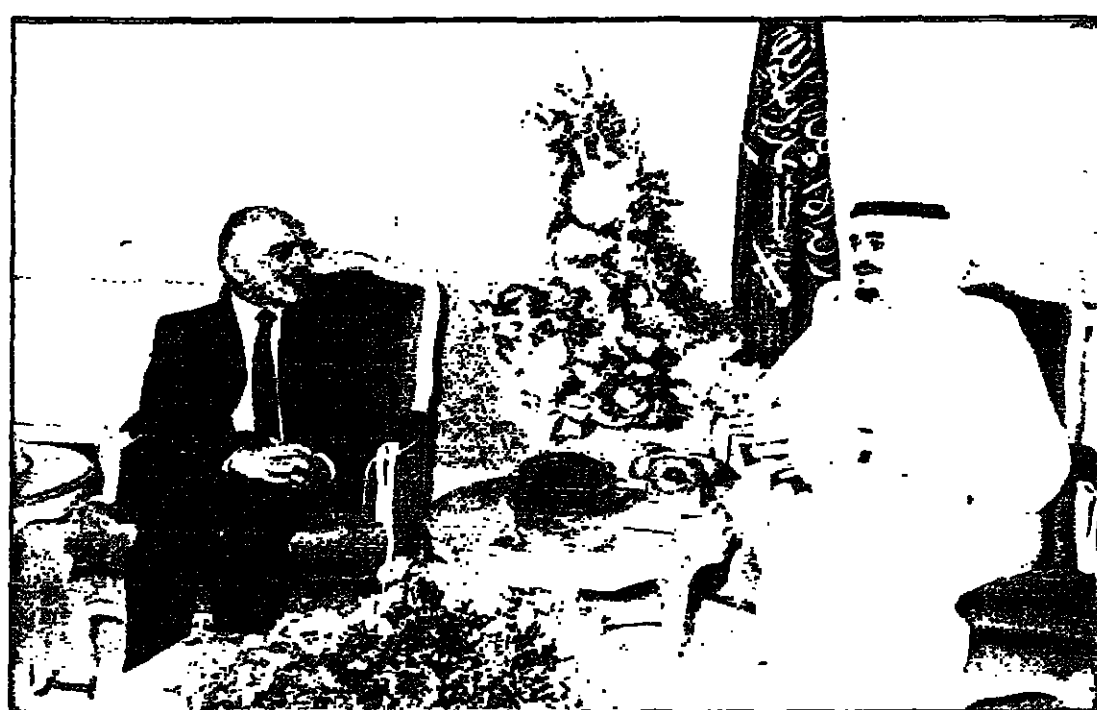
Earlier, King Hussein held a meeting with King Fahd and discussed pan-Arab and Islamic issues and Jordanian-Saudi Arabian relations.

Attending the meeting were Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Court Chief Thow-

qan Hindawi, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem. On the Saudi side, the talks were attended by Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, the second deputy prime minister and minister of defence, and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

King Hussein and King Fahd also held a closed meeting. Upon his return here, King Hussein was met by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior government officials and high-ranking Armed Forces officers.

Upon his departure from Saudi Arabia, the King sent a cable to King Fahd expressing appreciation for the hospitality accorded to him and the Jordanian dele-



His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday holds talks with King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia

tion, and his congratulations on 'Eid Al Fitr which is due in two days. King Hussein wished King Fahd continued health and happi-

ness and the Saudi Arabian people further progress and prosperity.

King Hussein also voiced his appreciation to King Fahd for the

discussion they had together about pan-Arab and Islamic affairs and thanked him for his solidarity with Jordan and his keenness on supporting it.

## Jordan reaffirms support for PLO

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem Wednesday reiterated Jordan's full support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in its drive to arrive at a peaceful and comprehensive settlement to the Palestine problem through an international peace conference.

Qasem was talking at a meeting here with Mahmoud Abbas, member of the PLO's Executive Committee, who arrived here Tuesday for consultations with the Jordanian government. Qasem expressed satisfaction



Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem Wednesday meets with PLO Executive Committee members Mahmoud Abbas and Abdul Razak Al Yahya (Petra photo)

with a meeting held in Paris Tuesday between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and French President Francois Mitterrand.

Attending the meeting, held in

Qasem's office, were Foreign Ministry Secretary General Mutassem Al Bilbisi and PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Razak Al Yahya.

## France welcomes Arafat gesture

PARIS (Agencies) — France Wednesday greeted as a positive gesture Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's statement that the PLO charter calling for Israel's elimination was no longer valid.

Prime Minister Michel Rocard said in a statement after the two men held talks that Arafat's comments on French television were "a positive clarification that leads towards peace."

President Francois Mitterrand also welcomed Arafat's acknowledgement that the 1964 charter of the Palestine National Council (PNC) was "null and void," saying it partially met his call for the PLO to clarify its position.

Arafat told French radio his meetings in Paris during a two-day visit which was to end Wednesday night would have an important effect on the Middle East peace process.

Israel appeared unimpressed by Arafat's statement that the charter had been superseded by the political programme adopted by the PNC in Algiers last November, which recognised Israel's right to exist alongside a future Palestine.

"We cannot take all his statements seriously," said an aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Israel.

In his meetings and radio interviews, Arafat paid homage to France's role as an intermediary, saying Mitterrand and Rocard had presented Israel's point of view during their separate talks Tuesday and Wednesday.

Arafat said one of the main purposes of his visit to France was to maintain international pressure on Israel to make concessions to Palestinian calls for a homeland.

Hardline PLO leaders were critical of Arafat's statement. "The (PNC) declaration calls for a two-state solution," Arafat told a news conference Wednesday, speaking in Arabic. "This means the charter is 'caduc,'" he added, using the French word for obsolete or null and void that he first employed in a televised in-

terview Tuesday night.

In a French radio interview Wednesday, Arafat said the appropriate English translation would be "superseded."

Pressed further at the news conference about the different possible shadings of meanings of "caduc" — ranging from legally worthless to just out-of-date — Arafat said, "I'm not here to give lessons in linguistics and law." He referred reporters to their French dictionaries.

Asked what he had to say to Israelis still suspicious of his motives, Arafat said, "I tell them once again, come, let's make peace. Why are they afraid of peace? Who is afraid of peace?" He said objections by other Palestinian leaders to his views are "the expression of Palestinian democracy. Everyone has the right to express his opinion."

Israeli liberals welcomed the Arafat statement as a positive step.

Arafat's statement Tuesday in Paris came up during a debate in parliament, and Chaim Ramon, parliamentary leader of the Labour Party, called for reconsidering Israel's ban on talking to the PLO.

Other Israeli doves said they regarded Arafat's latest statement as progress but challenged him to prove his words.

"If Arafat will summon the PNC it will show that he personally is serious about what he says," a foreign ministry official told Reuters.

Palestinians in the occupied territories said there was no need to convene the PNC because the council had accepted U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 implicitly recognising Israel and invalidating the charter.

"I'm personally against the PNC convening to abolish anything," said philosopher Sari Nusseibeh.

"What (Arafat) said was enough. Basically he confirmed that we are no longer working for the destruction of the state of Israel but for a state alongside Israel."

## Aoun lifts blockade of militia-run ports

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's military cabinet said Wednesday it had temporarily suspended a sea blockade of militia-run ports that triggered six weeks of savage artillery bombardments in and around Beirut in which 290 people died.

"The blockade has been officially suspended for a specific period of time to give a chance to the Arab foreign ministers to find a deep-rooted solution to the Lebanese crisis," said a statement by the cabinet of Major-General Michel Aoun.

The statement followed talks with two Arab League envoys to end the battles that erupted in mid-March as Aoun sought to extend his power beyond the Christian enclave in Lebanon.

Aoun's government is vying for power with a civilian administration led by Acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss.

One of the Arab League envoys said Wednesday the rival factions in Lebanon have agreed to implement a three-point ceasefire plan to end a bloodbath that has killed 278 people and wounded 1,010 in nearly two months.

"There is no justification for a single shot to be fired in Lebanon as of now," the Arab League official, Lakhdar Ibrahim, told reporters.

Police reported some sniper fire from west Beirut into the eastern sector about an hour after Ibrahim made the announcement. But one spokesman said: "It seems the ceasefire orders haven't been issued yet," playing down the violation.

Ibrahim, personal envoy of Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi, made the declaration after separate meetings with Hoss and Aoun.

Aoun's army units, estimated at 20,000 soldiers, have been battling Syrian troops and Lebanese militia allies since March 8, when the latest round in the 14-year-old civil war erupted.

Ibrahim, an Algerian diplomat, and Kuwait's ambassador to Syria, Abdul Aziz Al Jassam, arrived in Beirut earlier Wednesday seeking ways to enforce an Arab League-brokered truce that was supposed to take hold last Friday.

The ceasefire call had scaled down indiscriminate bombardment of population centres in and around Beirut.

Aoun's statement issued Wednesday did not say when Aoun would lift the blockade of the illegal ports which provided the country's militia with much of their income.

It was a key militia demand for an end to the artillery bombardments, the worst in 14 years of civil war which devastated areas of the capital of 1.5 million people.

Sources close to Aoun and Hoss said there were differences over how to implement the Arab League resolution.

They said Aoun insisted a ceasefire and deployment of Arab observers precede an end to the sea blockade, while his rivals demanded the blockade first be lifted.

"All sea and air outlets on

Lebanese territory will reopen and Halat airstrip is part of these outlets," the Aoun statement said.

Beirut's only civilian airport is located in west Beirut. The main Christian route to the outside world has for many years been the port of Jounieh which was closed by the recent shelling.

Ibrahim said shortly before the Aoun cabinet issued its statement:

"General Aoun has agreed to carry out the Arab League decision which calls for an end to all sea, land and air blockades and reopening of all crossing for a period of three months."

"General Aoun has agreed to a ceasefire and to lift all blockade. There is no reason anymore for anybody to fire a shell," Ibrahim told reporters after meeting Maronite Christian Patriarch Nasrallah Boutros Sfeir.

Sources close to Hoss and Aoun said the Arab peacekeepers discussed the deployment of a 312-man Arab ceasefire observer force. Ibrahim said Algeria, Tunisia and Kuwait would contribute observers.

He said an Arab summit scheduled within a month would discuss Lebanon.

The league is trying to end a constitutional crisis which erupted last September when parliament failed to elect a successor to outgoing President Amin Gemayel. This left Lebanon without a head of state and with rival governments, a deadlocked assembly and a divided army.

## Army destroys Palestinian homes

## Palestinian kills two Israelis in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian stabbed two Israelis to death and wounded three in Jerusalem's main street Wednesday.

Israeli civilians chased the assailant into a flower shop where they beat and kicked him until police intervened.

Police fired tear-gas to disperse 50 Israelis led by anti-Arab rabbi Meir Kahane as they marched towards the walled Old City vowing to take "revenge" on Palestinians.

Before being led away by police, Kahane, a former legislator banned from parliament as a racist, nodded towards the Old City and shouted:

"Today they (Arabs) are here. Tomorrow, the next day, they won't be here. We haven't forgotten. There will be revenge."

Police did not name the attacker, a man in his 20s from the West Bank town of Ramallah.

But Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev said he was from Islamic Jihad, a movement which claimed to carry out an October 1986 attack in Jerusalem that killed one Israeli and wounded 69.

The attack raised Arab-Jewish tensions in occupied Jerusalem, already high after 17 months of

Palestinian revolt against Israeli occupation that has brought almost daily violence to the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Arab Jerusalem.

West Jerusalem, however, has been relatively free from the violence, and Arabs have walked the streets of the Jewish sector with few cases of harassment.

Members of Kahane's Kach Party later beat up several Palestinians near the neighbourhood of Mea Sherim. Israeli army radio reported.

Police said the assailant had been questioned about unspecified "terrorist activities" in the past. Police spokesman Uri Sandori said the man spent the night before the attack praying at Jerusalem's Al Aqsa mosque for Leilat Al Kadr, a holiday marking the delivery of the Holy Koran to the Prophet Mohammad.

Krauss said the attacker apparently had no accomplices. In the West Bank, troops destroyed five houses of Palestinians accused of beating to death 40-year-old Mussalam Mahmoud Shaheen, an alleged collaborator with the Israeli occupation authorities.

Shaheen was killed April 20

after masked youths broke into his home in the West Bank village of Artas. He was one of more than a dozen suspected collaborators killed in the past month.

Early Wednesday, troops leveled four houses in Artas and one in the nearby Dheishe refugee camp.

The army has destroyed more than 180 houses in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since the December 1987 start of the Palestinian uprising.

Also Wednesday, the army said a corporal was "reprimanded" after he and two other soldiers ordered a Palestinian teenager to climb on the hood of their jeep to serve as a shield against stone throwers. The incident, which occurred Tuesday in the West Bank was filmed by a foreign TV crew.

In the West Bank, a young Arab labourer entered a Jewish settlement and asked a Jewish settler for work and suddenly took out a knife, stabbing the settler five times. Israel Radio said the injured man was taken to a hospital.

"Army forces reached the area and are pursuing the attacker," an army spokesman said.

## Bush refuses to budge over SNF

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush dug in his heels Wednesday and reaffirmed his opposition to East-West negotiations on short-range nuclear arms, a posture that could deepen a rift in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) alliance.

Bush made this clear to visiting Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland "in the strongest terms," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said in briefing reporters on their meeting in Washington.

"We believe we have to deal with conventional weapons first and then we'll address the SNF (short-range nuclear forces) issue," Fitzwater said.

"The president pointed out (to Brundtland) in the strongest terms that he feels this course is the right one," Fitzwater added.

West Germany has demanded early talks with the Warsaw Pact on reducing the number of short-range nuclear missiles in Europe — a demand which has divided

NATO. The White House official suggested that the United States is not eager to compromise. He said a failure to work out a common position prior to or at this month's NATO summit would not weaken the Western alliance.

"We'll continue to discuss it, but we're very firm in our position," he said.

Brundtland, who has generally been supportive of West German demands for talks on short-range weapons, predicted the alliance would reach a compromise before its May 29-30 summit in Brussels.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who opened the rift in the alliance by urging NATO to accept a Soviet proposal for talks on reducing nuclear missiles with a range of less than 500 kilometres, said Tuesday that he saw grounds for compromise.

Brundtland, talking to reporters after a one-hour meeting with Bush, suggested a route to compromise was language linking

progress on conventional arms cuts to nuclear talks.

But Fitzwater said the United States was not willing to embrace that approach and was ready for a "spirited debate" at the NATO summit.

Washington and London say SNF talks might lead to the elimination of all nuclear missiles from Europe and would leave the continent vulnerable to the Warsaw Pact's overwhelming advantage in conventional arms.

They have also been unsuccessfully pushing Kohl to agree to modernise short-range missile bases in West Germany.

Fitzwater said the administration opposed the elimination of nuclear weapons from Europe because that would "make Soviet conventional power the decisive arbiter of European security."

He also rejected the criticism of former Reagan administration arms negotiator Paul Nitze that Bush's position was a mistake.

## Pope: World must nurse Namibian independence

LUSAKA (R) — Pope John Paul urged the world Wednesday to protect the fledgling independence of Namibia and help the country reach authentic sovereignty.

In a hard-hitting, comprehensive address to the diplomatic corps in Zambia the Pope also repeated his condemnation of apartheid and called for international solidarity to ease Africa's crushing foreign debt. "To all those who hear my voice I make an appeal that Namibia, the latest country in Africa to become fully independent, be fully accepted into the family of nations," the Pope said.

He urged that Namibia be "sustained in its independence and given every assistance on

the road to economic, social and political autonomy."

Bloody fighting erupted at the start of a United Nations independence plan for South Africa-ruled Namibia April 1 but elections are still expected in the former German colony on Nov. 1.

The pontiff applauded recent signs of progress towards peace in southern Africa, mentioning the U.N. peace accords signed by South Africa, Angola and Cuba in December. These linked Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola.

"It is important that these process should be promoted and further strengthened through the support of the international community," he

said.

He called on all countries in southern Africa to abandon what he called selfish policies, and repeated that the church considered racism and social, economic and political discrimination "contrary to Christian faith and love."

### Botha 'warning'

South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said he had been warned of an impending incursion into northern Namibia later Wednesday by 350 nationalist guerrillas in defiance of the fragile U.N.-backed truce.

Fighters of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) would cross from Angola at three points to mark

the anniversary Thursday of a South African-led attack on a SWAPO base in Angola. Botha told parliament.

Scores of SWAPO supporters were killed during a South African raid on the Cassinga guerrilla base in southern Angola May 4, 1978.

Botha said he wanted to announce his knowledge of the raid before it started so the SWAPO leadership knew South African security forces were ready and prepared.

"If the information is correct, SWAPO must know tonight that the Namibian police and the South African army are waiting for them," he said.

There were no immediate reports of unrest in the war-

torn north of Namibia, where the United Nations is monitoring a pullout of SWAPO guerrillas back to Angola.

Botha declined to say how he learned of SWAPO's alleged plans, but added it was the same source which warned him of the April 1 infiltration of Namibia that derailed the U.N. independence operation for the territory.

The plan is now being resurrected following intense diplomatic negotiations between South Africa, Cuba and Angola.

There is an uneasy truce in the war area, and hopes were rising before Botha's statement to parliament that the original independence timetable could still be respected.



# Afghan rebels report progress in healing rifts

NICOSIA (R) — Afghan guerrillas based in Iran said Wednesday they had reached a tentative agreement with Pakistan-based commanders to form a united interim government.

Jan-Ali Zahedi, a spokesman for an eight-party rebel coalition operating out of Iran, said a four-point pact signed in Tehran urged the Mujahadeen groups to "preserve national unity and continue armed struggle until the fall of the Kabul regime."

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Zahedi as saying the agreement was reached with a delegation led by Burhanuddin Rabbani of the seven-party alliance based in Pakistan. The accord also stressed the need for coordination to form a future government in Afghanistan.

The eight Shi'ite groups were left out of the interim government set up by the mainly Sunni Pakistan-based alliance shortly after the completion of Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan last February.

Zahedi said during four rounds of talks in Tehran his coalition had categorically denied allegations that it had established contacts with Afghan President Najibullah's government. He did not elaborate.

The coalition says it represents a quarter of Afghan people and controls the same proportion of Afghan territory.

Zahedi said Rabbani's delegation, which has been in Iran for two weeks, was not fully authorised and representatives of the Iran-based groups will travel to Pakistan for further talks about the agreement.



Mauritanians ride a truck to Dakar airport to be flown home

## Mauritanians face uncertain future back home

By Jonathan Clayton  
Reuter

NOUAKCHOTT — As the Spanish C-130 military transport plane lumbered into the evening sky above Dakar, the 131 Mauritanians on board relaxed — they were alive and going home.

The passengers on the Hercules plane dubbed "Dumbo III" were among more than 30,000 refugees who have been repatriated in an international air shuttle. Planes have been flying non-stop in both directions between Mauritania and Senegal after last week's violence killed hundreds of people in both countries.

For the first time in more than three days, Mahmoud allowed himself a brief smile as he took the bread and fresh fruit handed out by Spanish aid workers. He was sad, he said, to be leaving the Senegalese capital where he had worked as

a trader for seven years.

Any joy, however, was tempered by the manner in which he had left Senegal and the uncertain future waiting for him back home in Mauritania.

Like most of the refugees fleeing the violence, he had to leave all his belongings behind. "I have to find my wife," he said. "She left two days ago. I suppose she must be all right."

After arriving in the capital Nouakchott, the Mauritanian refugees are being housed in a football stadium until the government decides what to do next. At the airport they are kept well away from the departing Senegalese.

Unconfirmed reports say up to 400 Senegalese were killed in Mauritania. The violence stemmed from a dispute over grazing rights which brought decades of simmering racial tension to the surface between Arabic-speaking Moors and black Africans.

Revenge killings followed in Dakar as Senegalese looted Mauritanian-owned stores. Many Mauritanians working in Senegal owned shops and small businesses while the Senegalese in Mauritania have tended to work in the construction industry or as domestics.

Passions have been further inflamed by the refugees' stories of the brutality meted out by the authorities in each country. Independent witnesses say both sides have indiscriminately confiscated personal effects.

A senior Mauritanian government official accused Senegal of not sticking to an agreement to allow all refugees to leave with their belongings. He said Mauritanians had been stripped of goods totalling 20 million French francs (\$3.2 million).

Witnesses at the airport in Nouakchott said Senegalese had been forced to hand over clothes, watches, jewellery and

even spectacles.

"Things are a lot better today (Tuesday) than they were a few days ago. I get the impression, the authorities are now trying to stop the worst outrages," a Spanish aid worker said.

Troops fired tear gas Tuesday to disperse crowds of Mauritanians trying to learn the fate of their countrymen fleeing riots in Senegal, eyewitnesses said.

"Order must be maintained whatever the price," said a government spokesman, adding that reabsorbing about 300,000 Mauritanians working in Senegal would be a major problem.

Thousands of frightened Senegalese waited at Nouakchott airport to be flown home in the airlift spearheaded by France and Morocco. Clothes and personal effects lay in ceiling-high piles in the departure lounge.

## Baker urged to reject Soviet Afghan talks call

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A U.S. National Security Council (NSC) panel has advised Secretary of State James Baker to turn down any Soviet call for talks on ending the Afghan civil war when he visits Moscow next week, the New York Times said Wednesday.

Baker should resist any offers for negotiations on Afghanistan but should offer to exchange views and information with the Soviets, according to a summary of recommendations made by the panel last week, the newspaper said.

The paper said the policy coordinating committee of the National Security Council had concluded the Afghan guerrillas needed more time to prove themselves on the battlefield before the United States changed its policy.

Washington back the guerrillas in their war against the Soviet-backed Afghan government, and officials had no immediate comment on story.

The panel, made up of middle-level State Department aides and other officials, also said that if Moscow agreed that Afghan leader Najibullah must step down the United States would be willing to discuss a peaceful transfer of power.

Eight Afghan refugees were wounded in a bomb blast at a hotel in the south-western Pakistani town of Quetta, police said Tuesday.

The explosion, near a bus station in the Baluchistan provincial capital, also caused extensive damage.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for explosion.

## WHO move on PLO said to turn on politics

WASHINGTON (R) — The chief of the World Health Organisation (WHO) said Tuesday legal arguments seem to go against Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) membership in the U.N. agency and suggested the issue of Palestinian statehood should be tested elsewhere.

Director General Hiroshi Nakajima refused to predict how the 166 member states in WHO's assembly would vote next week in Geneva if, as expected, the application from the PLO is pressed.

But he said he hoped a U.S. threat to withhold aid would be seen as a warning that the issue of PLO membership is "a very serious problem and this (WHO) is not the place to talk (about) it."

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was raising the issue, which turns on whether the PLO can be judged a state, "in the most inappropriate time, in the most inappropriate place," he said.

"This issue is an international political issue," he added.

The Japanese physician met reporters after talks with acting Assistant Secretary of State Shaw Smith that apparently did not alter Secretary of States James Baker's announced threat Monday to recommend an end to U.S. contributions to WHO or other U.N. agencies that admit the PLO as a full member.

The State Department refused comment on the meeting and Nakajima said only the officials discussed "how to cope with this difficult question."

A U.S. aid cutoff would deprive WHO of about \$100 million this year and force a halt in the fourth quarter in most of the agency's crucial activities.

Such action could affect small-pox eradication, immunisation against childhood diseases and programmes for Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Nakajima said.

Only states can be WHO members and the United States is concerned membership would give international recognition to the Palestinian state the PLO declared last year.

The United States says it fears giving that state legitimacy would undermine efforts to revive the Middle East peace process and bring Arabs and Israelis into direct negotiations.

Nakajima declined to take a position on the question of whether the PLO qualifies as a state.

But he said the only legal document defining a state is the 1937 Montevideo Convention.

"If you apply the strictest sense (to) the Montevideo Convention the PLO may not be satisfiable to the conditions," which are people, government and territory, he said.

Also, he said, while the United Nations last year changed the denomination of the PLO to Palestine, the U.N. interpretation remains that "Palestine is not a state."

Asked if WHO could give membership to an entity that did not meet the criteria of a state, Nakajima replied: "That is a very difficult issue which most competent legal counsel of the U.N. cannot clearly say."

He said that Monday the Arab League and, in particular, Bahrain, had formally proposed PLO membership in WHO.

He read a letter from 12 European members of WHO noting that no member of the European Community (EC) recognised PLO/Palestine as a state.

Nakajima hinted that compromise before a vote was unlikely. He said he has been trying without success to get the PLO to delay its application and now the matter was for WHO member states to decide.

WHO members can ask the director general to study the matter further or accept or reject the application.

## Vanunu appeals 18-year sentence

TEL AVIV (R) — Alleged Israeli nuclear spy Mordechai Vanunu appealed behind closed doors Wednesday against his 18-year prison term for treason and espionage after the high court rejected a request by foreign lawyers for an open hearing.

Vanunu, convicted in March 1988 for telling a British newspaper that Israel had produced as many as 200 atom bombs, was taken to court under heavy police guard nearly two hours before the proceedings began.

"The rights of Mordechai Vanunu are properly guaranteed by the law and we trust his lawyer will guard them. The request of the (foreign) lawyers... to be present in the hearing was rejected," the three-judge court said in its decision.

Attorneys Nicole Dreyfus of Paris and Romeo Ferucci and Ezio Menzione of Rome and Pisa, Italy, came to Israel to observe Vanunu's appeal on behalf of the Brussels-based International Federation of Democratic Lawyers.

Vanunu's trial was also closed to the public.

"We respect the decision but we regret that we cannot be present because we think every trial should be open," Menzione told reporters.

"The closure can be harmful to Vanunu's defence. It's no use to keep the whole trial closed. There are parts of the trial that can be open with no threat to security," he said.

Vanunu, 35, worked at Israel's top-secret nuclear reactor in Dimona for nine years before he allegedly sold Israel's atomic secrets to the Sunday Times of London.

Israel has never confirmed or denied possessing nuclear arms, saying only it would not be the first country to introduce such weapons into the Middle East.

Vanunu disappeared from London in September 1986 and later turned up in an Israeli prison. During his trial, Vanunu flashed a message on the palm of his hand against the window of a police van taking him to court saying he was abducted in Rome.

A hero among Western anti-nuclear campaigners, Vanunu has received little support in Israel. The press, portraying him as unstable, has reported that he engaged in pro-Palestinian activities and converted to Christianity.

Gidon Sipp, spokesman for the Israeli committee for an Open Trial for Vanunu, a tiny leftist group hosting the foreign lawyers, said: "We think that the criminal act is producing the bomb and not disclosing it to the public."

Vanunu's family says he told them he acted for ideological motives because he feared the spread of nuclear weapons but that did not want to harm Israel's security.

The court could have imposed



Mordechai Vanunu

a maximum 20-year-term but gave him a lighter sentence because he aided investigators. He could be released in 1998 with time off for good behaviour.

Israel refuses to say how Vanunu returned but Italy probed the possibility that he was drugged and shipped home after being lured from London to Rome by a blonde woman agent of Israel's Mossad intelligence service.

Recent reports have suggested that the entire Vanunu affair could have been engineered by the Israeli government and some critics have even questioned whether the person identified as Vanunu was indeed the former nuclear worker at Dimona.

An Italian magistrate investigating the alleged kidnapping from Rome has suggested that all indications were that there was no way that Mossad agents could have spirited Vanunu out of Italy.

## S. Arabia urges better ties with Iran

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia wants good relations with Iran, King Fahd was quoted Wednesday as saying by a Kuwait-based newspaper.

"Iran faces us... we cannot change the fact of Iran's geographical location nor can it change ours," Al Sayyash newspaper reported the Saudi monarch as saying.

"On our part we do not ask anything from Iran except mutual respect..." he told the daily in an interview in Saudi Arabia.

Relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran deteriorated sharply because of Riyadh's support for Iraq and disputes over Iranian pilgrims in Mecca.

More than 400 people, mainly Iranian pilgrims, were killed in clashes in Mecca between Iranian demonstrators and Saudi security forces in 1987.

The following year Saudi Arabia asked Iran to reduce from 150,000 to 45,000 the number of pilgrims it would send to Mecca.

Tehran responded by boycotting the pilgrimage and after a further deterioration between the two states Saudi Arabia broke off diplomatic links, accusing Iran of hostile policies.

There have been signs this year that the two countries were however moving towards a rapprochement.

On Tuesday, Saudi Arabia

again urged Muslim states to respect their quotas.

"It is necessary for all Muslim states, including Iran, to abide by the special arrangements and specify the number of pilgrims," the Saudi Press Agency quoted Haj Minister Abdul Wahhab Abdul Wasie as saying.

Iran's official IRNA news agency said Sunday the cabinet met to study a report on "the continued problems created by Saudi Arabia" over the issue.

Tehran has not said whether it will attend this year's Haj.

Abdul Wahhab said all states must abide by their quotas until projects to increase the capacity of the holy sites were completed.

## Shot PLO envoy remains in coma

SIDON (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative to Lebanon remained in a coma Wednesday but was reported in stable condition a day after being shot in the head by a masked gunman.

A spokesman at Hammoud hospital said Issam Salem, 48, survived a five-hour operation to remove a bullet that pierced the left side of his forehead in Tuesday's assassination attempt.

"The operation was a success. Mr. Salem is in stable condition but still in coma. However, we won't know if we can take him off the critical list for at least 48 hours," the spokesman said. He declined to be named.

Salem was the second high-ranking official of the PLO to be the target of an assassination attempt in Sidon within four days.

Police said a lone assailant, wearing a plastic mask, fired two 9-mm pistol shots into Salem's head and shoulder at a gift store in this port city's Fakhreddin Street.

The gunman escaped through narrow alleyways leading to the Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ain Al Hilweh on Sidon's southern flank, according to police.

The PLO security department and the Nasserite militia that governs Sidon said they have launched a joint hunt for the gunman. But spokesman for the two sides said Wednesday no arrests

were made.

There were no responsibility claims for the attempt against Salem or the rocket-propelled grenade attack Saturday on the house of Zeid Wehbi, the PLO spokesman in Sidon.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, on an official visit in France, called the attack on Salem "a message for us to put our hands and stop helping our Lebanese brothers."

Palestinian sources in Beirut described it as a professional assassination attempt by Israeli agents, but security sources in Sidon linked the attack to a power struggle within the PLO in the port town.

Militia leader Mustapha Saad, who controls Sidon, also accused Israel of responsibility.

They said Abdul Rahman, now in jail, issued his ruling in March on the grounds that Mahfouz's writings contained blasphemy.

Abdul Rahman was arrested April 7 after a clash between fundamentalists and police in the oasis town of Fayoum.

Grand Mufti Sheikh Sayed Tantawi, Egypt's highest religious authority, was quoted Wednesday as saying the threat against Mahfouz could not have been issued by "a mentally sound person."

"I am against this... no person can decide to kill a Muslim without legitimate causes such as betraying his religion," Tantawi was quoted by the weekly newspaper Al Ahali as saying.

Mahfouz's own book "The

## Mahfouz receives Rushdie-style threat

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Nobel Laureate Naguib Mahfouz said Wednesday Muslim extremists had vowed to kill him for blasphemy in a similar threat to that against Salman Rushdie.

"Police have offered me protection after Muslim extremists announced their intention to kill me," Mahfouz told Reuters. "I refused because police protection could disturb my life and disrupt my day-to-day habits."

Mahfouz, 77, who became the first Arab to win the Nobel Prize for Literature last year, sharply criticised Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini when he urged Muslims in February to kill Rushdie for blasphemy.

Security sources said a similar order against Mahfouz had been issued by Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, a blind theologian who some Egyptian Muslim radicals in the outlawed Islamic Jihad group regard as their mentor.

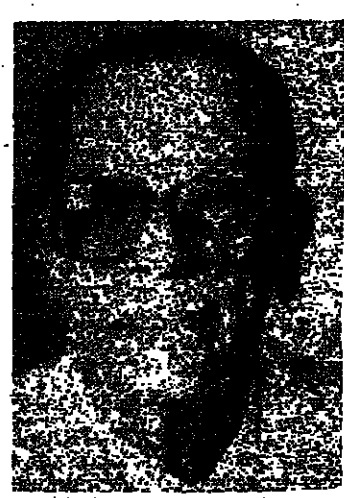
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Mahfouz's own book "The



Naguib Mahfouz

Children of Gebelawi" has been banned in Egypt since 1959 on the grounds of blasphemy.

The Egyptian author has criticised Rushdie's book "Satanic Verses" as an unthinking diatribe against Islam but said Khomeini was wrong to have ordered the Indian-born Briton's death.

"No book can shake a religion," Mahfouz said.

Mahfouz's wife, Atyatullah, said her husband continued to go to work every day at Egypt's semi-official Al Ahram newspaper, maintaining his normal routine.

"We are keeping an eye on Mahfouz without annoying him," one security official said.

Supporters of Islamic Jihad belonged to the group responsible for the killing of President Anwar Sadat in 1981.

Interior Minister Zaki Badr, has ordered a crackdown on Muslim zealots and arrested more than 1,500 over the past month.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77511-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
14:30	Koraa
14:55	Children programmes
16:15	Cooking programme
16:30	Arabic series
17:20	Health programme
18:00	Religious period
18:20	Ramadan contest
18:35	Arabic series
19:00	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:30	Programme review
21:40	Religious series
22:25	Riddle
23:00	News in Arabic
23:15	Arabic play
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Coulties
18:30	Documentary about plants
19:00	News in French
19:15	Strategy
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varities
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Bill Cosby Show
21:10	Beauty and the Beast
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature film
PRAYER TIMES	
03:17	Fajr
06:42	Dhuhr
11:32	Dhuhr

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Index. Winds will be southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	15 / 31
Aqaba	22 / 36
Deserts	14 / 32
Jordan Valley	19 / 34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29, Aqaba 34. Humidity readings: Amman 21 per cent, Aqaba 21 per cent.

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ramzi Mizzawi 894788  
Dr. Salah Al 'Issad 649028  
Dr. Fayez Jalloubeh 624207  
Dr. Husni Haddad 731267  
First pharmacy 661912  
Firdow pharmacy 718336  
Al Asma pharmacy 670555  
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 644945  
Shamsan pharmacy 657660

IRBID:  
Dr. Lawrence Rader ( )

Al Sharas' pharmacy ..... (985238)

ZARQA:  
Dr. Yahya Al Tarifi ..... 95417  
Khalidh pharmacy ..... (85417)

## EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency Rescue Phone ..... 199  
Fire Brigade ..... 622090/93  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 665909/91  
Public Security Department ..... 656000 / 685111  
Hotel Complaints ..... 635800

Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 12  
Overseas Calls ..... 17  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111

Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636881  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53300  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... 08-53000

## HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Anasir Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khaldi Maternity, I. Amn. .... 648126  
Alkikh Maternity, I. Amn. .... 624412  
Jabel Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, I. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shamsan ..... 66417/14  
Shmeisani Maternity ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Mushar Hospital ..... 687227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 661327/27  
Al-Ahl, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 771101/3  
Al-Bashir, I. Ashrafieh ..... 775112/26  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 891611/5  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602401/50  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)991071  
Bin Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732

IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272775  
Bin Al-Nash Hospital ..... (02)247100

ADAMA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314141

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08)520305, where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

Time	From
09:10	Damascus (RU)
09:15	Jeddah (RU)
09:30	Cairo (RU)
09:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RU)
09:55	Doha, Bahrain (RU)
10:00	Dhahran, Kuwait (RU)
10:00	Calcutta (RU)
12:50	Aqaba (RU)
15:00	Bangkok (RU)
16:15	Larnaca (RU)
16:30	Kuwait-Add. (RU)
17:30	New York, Amsterdam (RU)
17:45	London, Geneva (RU)
18:10	Casablanca, Tunis (RU)
18:20	Bangkok, Athens (RU)





Mona Sami's Fecundity — green Turkish marble

## Al Wasiti hosts 12 artists for May

By Nelly Lama  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A versatile art exhibition is being held at Al Wasiti Gallery in the Plaza Hotel. The exhibition started Tuesday, May 3.

The exhibition houses works in various styles done by twelve Arab artists from all over the world. The calibre of many of these artists is pronouncedly high.

Moroccan artist Hachimi Azza opens the scene with his Mezzotint prints; solemn simplicity! Five mature works, compacted or compilations of items are conveyed with utmost realism. These works are valuable because of the professional quality of their rendering.

Next comes the abstract work of Palestinian artist Vladimir Tamariz where volumes interact in gentle motion. Brushstrokes and water colour techniques (the interaction of paint with the paper) plays a very important role in his works. Different textural effects, different colour combinations, some based on a warm scheme of *Bois-de-rose* or a cooler scheme of the blue/green scale with gold leaf superimpositions. This use of watercolour techniques is the consequence of the sapient and practised hand of the artist. Only one work bears a touch of realism, with a centralised "timeless" human figure wearing a halo.

Palestino-Lebanese artist (of American origin) Paul Gharraoui offers four works, one of a semi-realistic seated mandolin player. Made with very few brushstrokes, it shows, explicitly, the perspective in which the volumes flow. Some fine texture appears on the textile; it adds an oriental touch but does not detract from the purity of the work.

Two other watercolours have his typical vertical figures marching forward, rendered in contrasting deep greens and maroons, intermittently interrupted by lighter tints of these complements. The "hit-and-miss" impression of the dry brushstrokes contrasts with the wet rendering of some parts.

His largest work is full of vitality, covered with a dispersion of colours, rhythms and the use of mixed-media (gouache and wax crayons).

Samir Sayegh from Lebanon is a poet who has quit poetry for a more visual yet abstract interplay of words. His work is a compilation, a repetitious use of the same word, creating recurring black and white rhythms leaving a jagged white margin in the centre, or forming a word-frame around a square area of calligraphy.

Ahmad Nawash, Jordan, appears next, with his pastel-coloured paintings, his simple rendering of figures and his lyrical, if not psychological approach to the subject matter. Stylised figures overlap and interpenetrate, often losing their personal identity.

New York based Sudanese artist Mohammad Khalil offers textured prints incorporating photography and printing techniques that enable him to print out different textile motifs.

A small work (others are gigantic) has a centralised composition in the form of a bloom, including a portrait and decorative patterns made with the different textural inprints.

Salsam Kanaana reappears with his rustic landscapes that remind us of Jordan in the past. A rhythmic repetition of windows and the use of earth colours typify his works. In his portrayal of a portico he makes an attempt at perspective.

Ghada Dahdaleh exhibits abstract works in mixed media (watercolours, wax crayons and spray paint) creating different depths and subtle rhythms sometimes interrupted by loud black

diagonals that make a strong statement in an otherwise silent, gentle work.

Mona Sami, the director of the gallery, presents, for the first time here, three sculptures. "The Kiss" is carved in "rose aurore" marble. It is a vertical concretion with interesting curvilinearities that bends into sheer sensuality.

Another sculpture, made out of green Turkish marble, is called "Fecundity." It has interpenetrating forms reminiscent of the Chinese Yin Yang symbol with positive/negative, male/female, light/dark connotations. Seen from the side, it shows gradating embracing curves all held in check by a square form behind, behaving as a locking device that holds the flow of the curvilinear shapes in balance.

The third sculpture called "Womb" is made of Carrara marble and is more figurative than the other two. A stylised human figure has the symbolic concavities pertaining to the subject and, surprisingly enough, some angular projections. Texture, in all these sculptures, is always smooth.

Nawal Abdullah figures next with her gouache geometric abstractions. Their format is full, to the limit, with interpenetrating strips of intense colour, often interspersed with black; either as a background or delineating the strips, but always enhancing the "musical" movement that goes horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

The painting "Music" has a more subtle movement, with tinted lines outline the thick but fluid horizontal strips enhancing their flow. Gentle triangles are sprinkled on top creating an intermittent flurry. Two very dynamic paintings of Nawal manifest great power, they bear witness to the flashing virtuosity and maturity of the artist. She gives full reign to her forms. Solid masses pull in and out with strong tension while thick areas of black sustain them from below. Seeing these works of abstract expressionism, one gets the feeling that he is in a gallery in New York. Leo Castelli and the like.

Egyptian artist Adli Rizkallah presents a couple of abstract paintings called "Crystallisations." The futuristic approach, or repetitious reiteration of shapes, and the progression of colours from light pink to blue contribute to the implication of the subject matter.

Yasser Dweik's etchings portray a constant appealing motion towards the sun. In "Dawn," textured areas rise at different points towards a rising sun rendered in colour.

Another etching portrays a number of hands appealing to the sun, some of them barred in an isolated area. A lower area exposes the back of the head of a man with a *hatta* (headgear) while two other men, facing the viewer, are gagged and scarred respectively. Within the sun a naked child runs off. This painting is called "Beirut '82."

In "The Bird" it is he, the bird, who is appealing to the sun with his open beak.

Di'a Al Azawi appears with a monumental painting filled with his forceful colours and shapes. Large space of very intense colour carry smaller more rhythmic areas intermittent with calligraphy.

A coloured graphic print depicts human figures in motion. Last but by no means the least, Nabli Shehadeh appears with his strong temperamental brushstrokes blazing out with different directional thrusts. Impressive splashes and dripping of colour adds to the vitality of the painting. The whole is contained and well-balanced within a thick frame.

This exhibition has made few compromises. It caters for quality. It will go on until May 30 and is well-worth seeing.

## RJ transforms QAIA mall into investment enterprise

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ) the national airline has decided to transform its duty-free shops, the mall at the Queen Alia International Airport into an investment enterprise owned and operated by (RJ).

In announcing its decision Wednesday, RJ board of directors said that the mall which was formally opened last September will have independent management, but will continue to be linked financially to the RJ administration under a new set of internal instructions.

The purpose of this step, an RJ statement said, is to achieve further speed and increase productivity for the benefit of the customers and the passengers and shoppers.

This step is bound to expand the mall's operations and ensure further income of foreign currency, the statement added.

According to the announcement, the mall will from now on be under the control of a special RJ administrative committee headed by RJ's vice president for financial affairs.

The space occupied by the mall and the accompanying offices are all rented by RJ from the Civil Aviation Authority which runs the airport.

Senior RJ officials were earlier quoted as saying that the mall sells products at 15 per cent to 25 per cent cheaper than the market in Jordan and offers jewellery,

watches, toys, accessories, scent, tobacco, drinks, gifts of all sorts, local handicrafts, clothes, suitcases, and other commodities like cosmetics, glasses ties etc.

Unlike the previous duty-free shop, the mall operates 24 hours a day and allows for in-coming as well as outgoing passengers to purchase whatever they desire.

The mall was opened by His

Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein; and RJ Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Ali Ghandour said then that the development of the duty-free shops stems from the Kingdom's stated policy of transforming the airport into a transit gate to the world's capitals and an important connection between East and West.



Transaction at QAIA mall (file photo)

## Anani replaces Badran; Mulqi takes over RSS

AMMAN (J.T.) — Dr. Jawad Al Anani has been appointed secretary general of the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST) to succeed Dr. Adnan Badran who was appointed minister of agriculture in the new Cabinet of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

Dr. Hani Fawzi Al Mulqi has been appointed president of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) to replace Dr. Anani.

Since 1987 Mulqi has served as executive director general of the Islamic Academy of Sciences, and between 1983 and 1987 he was director of the RSS's solar research centre.

Mulqi holds a Ph.D degree in



Jawad Anani

industrial engineering from New York in 1979.

## Cabinet approves grant

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers has approved an agreement providing for technical assistance worth 358,000 Islamic dinars from the Islamic Development Bank to the Royal Scientific Society (RSS). The grant will help establish an experimental plant to conduct a feasibility study on assembling and producing calculators.

The Council of Ministers also approved appointment of Issam Budeiri and Jack Khayyat as members representing the private sector to serve on a committee charged with encouraging investments in the Kingdom. They will serve for two years.

## PLA commander congratulates King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received a congratulatory cable from Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) Commander Brigadier Na'im Al Khatib on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of the King's Assumption of his constitutional power.

Khatib conveyed sincere wishes to the King on behalf of all PLA members. "These years have been abound with great achievements during which you shouldered the responsibility despite the hardships Your Majesty faced," the cable said.

Attributing the embodiment of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt in Jordan to the King's wise policies, unstinting struggle, and sincerity towards all pan-Arab issues foremost of which is the Palestine cause, Khatib pledged to sincerely stand by Jordan in good and bad days.

## 14,739 students in governorate Nsour inspects Maan schools

MAAN (J.T.) — Minister of Education Abdullah Nsour Wednesday made an inspection tour of schools and educational departments in Maan Governorate in southern Jordan and discussed questions of concern to the local inhabitants with officials and school teachers.

The Ministry of Education is now involved in a number of important issues including matters related to the secondary school certificate examination (Tawjihi) for which the ministry has now prepared a set of regulations to ensure control over examinations and other related affairs, Nsour said at a meeting held at a local school in Maan.

Nsour noted, is about to delve into the transitional period of a process designed to fulfil the aims and objectives of the first educational conference held in Amman in 1987, and is embarking on a process of overhauling matters related to curricula, textbooks and teaching methods. The minister urged teachers to

exert all their efforts to impart good knowledge to the young generation and instil in their hearts self-confidence and a sense of national belonging.

At present specialised committees are working hard on revising all the syllabuses prior to working out new courses for the students at various school stages, the minister pointed out. He said teachers ought to be allowed open channels of communication with the Ministry of Education and its various departments and improve educational methods. The teachers' views should be heard about textbooks and methods so that the whole process can succeed, the minister added.

Nsour met with Maan governor and mayor along with a number of educational directors and teachers in the area. He later met with the director of Maan education department who briefed him on the needs and the available facilities for education.

The Maan Governorate, he said, now has 14,739 male and



Abdullah Nsour

female students receiving education at the hand of 832 teachers in 73 schools.

The director said that 27 of the existing schools are owned by the Ministry of Education and the rest are rented buildings; but it is hoped that students will be taught in government-owned schools by the beginning of the coming scholastic year.

The director of the Ministry of Education's financial department accompanied the minister on his tour.

## Badran urges increased food production

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Adnan Badran Wednesday urged departments of agriculture around the country to help Jordan ensure food security and encourage further production of cereals, and lean meat.

In view of the growing population in Jordan, the country has no alternative but to intensify its efforts to promote the agricultural sector and help farmers produce all that is needed for local consumption, the minister said at a meeting held at the ministry.

Badran said that not only has the country to produce more but ought to be made to earn revenues far exceeding the amounts to pay for imported food sup-

plies.

Badran requested all department directors and agricultural engineers to help implement the directives of His Majesty King Hussein as contained in the letter of designation to the prime minister upon the formation of the new Cabinet. These, he said call for introducing measures to protect agricultural land, organising production at agricultural nurseries, solving marketing problems, reducing the cost of farming equipment and other inputs, and revising the current cropping system.

The minister also stressed the need to increase cooperation between the ministry and its various departments on the one hand, and

the private sector on the other. The Ministry of Agriculture, he said, will not be a rival to the private sector but will rather serve as a party that offers facilities and proper investment climates.

The minister asked the directors to prepare reports which contain specific proposals that would help the overall revision process.

Also on Wednesday, Badran met with Australia's Ambassador to Jordan Graham Robert Bowker. They discussed bilateral cooperation in the production of animal feed and promoting an Australian-sponsored fodder project.

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**ON DUTY:** Cleaners employed by the Greater Amman Municipality will be on duty during the Eid Al Fitr holiday from Saturday until Monday evening, according to Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh. But, he said, that only 30 per cent of the worker force will be on duty on the first day, 50 per cent on the second day and 100 per cent on the third day. The mayor said that the central market place will have only two days off, Saturday and Sunday (Petra).

**BUDGET:** Fuhes municipality will have a JD 360,701 budget for 1989 according to its mayor Faouk Jreisat. He said that JD 85,000 will be used to finance the construction of roads and JD 21,000 to build retaining walls, while the rest will be spent on public gardens and street lighting (Petra).

**TOWN HALL:** Muta town has commissioned a local company to build a town hall at a cost of JD 21,782. Mayor Kamal Al Sarayreh said that.

**MARINE LIFE:** Muta University plans to organise an exhibition of marine life at the Marine Science Station in Aqaba on May 14. The two day exhibition will allow the students of Muta community college to study closely the various forms of marine creatures in the Gulf of Aqaba.

**INDUSTRIAL LOANS:** The Industrial Development Bank has approved nine industrial loans to local businesses worth JD 1.8 million. These projects include among others a biscuit factory, a printing press and a shoe plant. A bank statement said that its board this year has approved of a total of 58 loans, together worth JD 8.18 million.

**ROYAL DECREE:** A Royal Decree has been issued approving the formation of an agricultural council, headed by the minister of agriculture to define the objectives of agricultural development and draw up the appropriate strategy for it. The council will also be entrusted with studying the problems, facing the agricultural sector and to find out the right solutions (Petra).

**EXPATRIATES:** The Jordanian expatriates' conference will open in early July at the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Youth City. The conference is expected to discuss expatriates' affairs and economic matters (J.T.).

**TENDER:** Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jabir has agreed to offer a tender at JD 104,208 so as to carry out service projects in a number of local councils in the Kingdom (J.T.).

**BUDGET:** The budget of Kremah township in North Ghor district for 1989 totalled JD 104,394 (J.T.).

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Mohammad Bolis and Munira Tunisiyyeh at the Housing Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition displaying 120 paintings depicting the history of the German city of Berlin and different aspects of life in East Germany, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ The May art exhibition at Al Wasiti Art Gallery, Plaza Hotel.

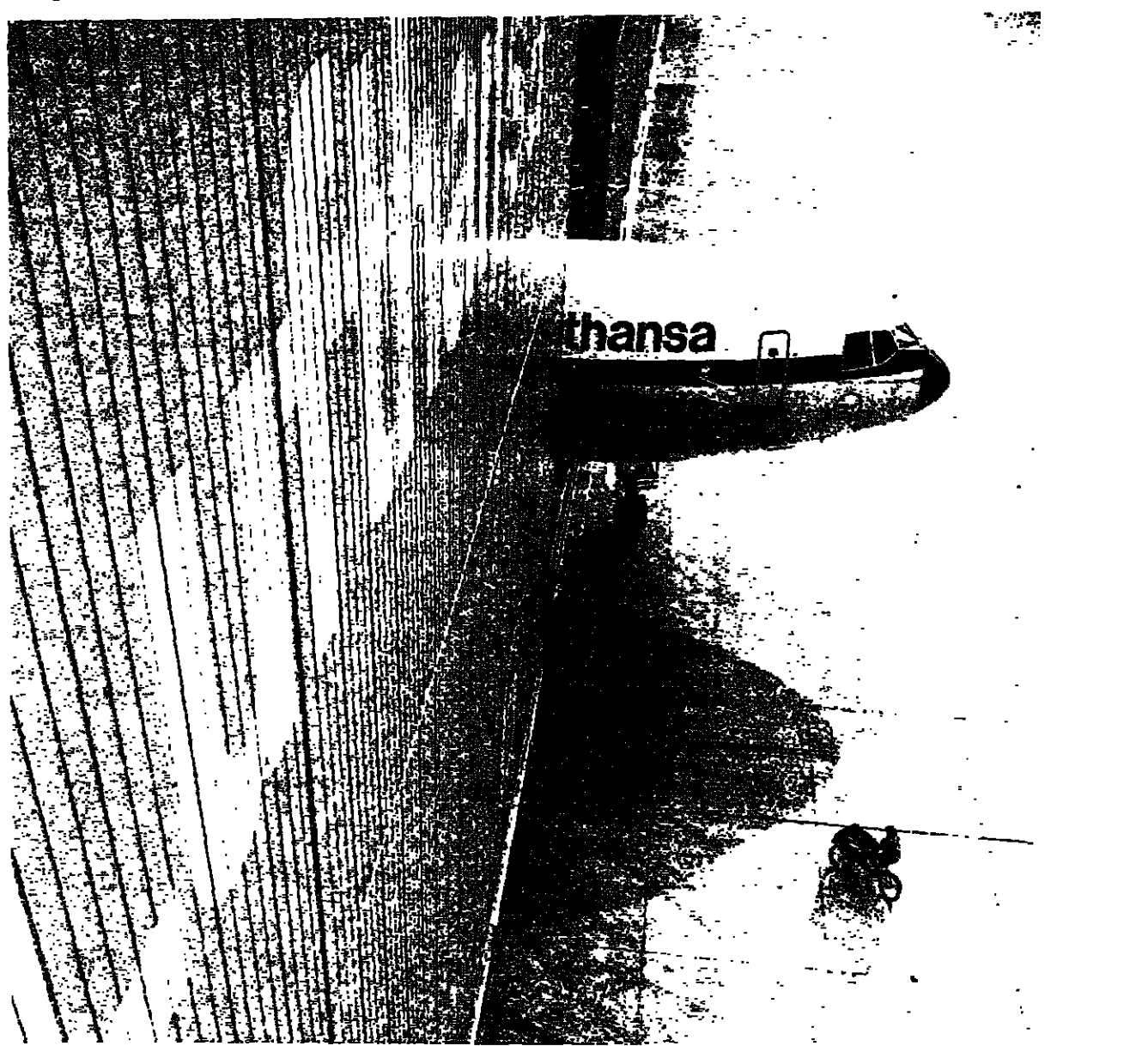
### RAMADAN SOUQ

- ★ Ramadan open-air market, which includes foodstuff, clothes, home appliances and children's toys at Mahatta, eastern Amman.
- ★ International Ramadan Souq, in which 14 Arab and Islamic countries are taking part, at the International Auto Centre, Queen Alia International Airport Highway.

### FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "The Purple Rose of Cairo" at the American Centre — 4:00 p.m.

## The News is out. Departures at the best time of the day.



What is better than having breakfast with your family before leaving for the airport. And then be back for "News at Ten" or take them out for dinner.

In June Lufthansa invites 10 of their return

passengers to the superb **JORDAN INTER-CONTINENTAL**, the best Restaurant in town.

Just book your return flight to Amman with Lufthansa and win.

Amman-Frankfurt nonstop	
Mon/Thu	LH663 11:30* 15:05
Fri	LH661 8:10* 12:05
Frankfurt-Amman nonstop	
Sun/Wed	LH662 14:00 18:25*
Thu	LH660 14:00 18:25*

\* Until change of summertime dep./arr. Amman one hour earlier.

For more information, please call 601744. We will mail it immediately.

**Lufthansa**



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Jordan Times Advertising Department.

## Three with one stone — the Israeli game

THE ISRAELI explanation for the latest upsurge of violence and mounting Palestinian casualties in the occupied territories goes that it stems from religious passions during the Holy Month of Ramadan, a show of influence by rival Palestinian groupings and a pressure tactic by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Trust the Israelis to point to anything but truth and reality. If anything, the sheer number of Palestinian casualties during the last two weeks underlines the fact that the Israeli army is having a field day, particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip, where violence is described as "out of control." The situation in the thickly-populated coastal strip cannot be seen in isolation from the political developments in the overall Palestinian problem since it takes little imagination to realise that the Likud leaders who dominate the Israeli government are trying to shoot down three birds with one shot; first, they are pursuing an effort to make good their promises to quell the intifada in less than six months after taking office; second, to stifle the voice of resistance as much as possible before moving any forward from their stubborn negotiating position, and third, but not the least, to intimidate the Palestinians into accepting the Israeli version of a solution to the problem.

The chest-thumping assertion of the Israeli general in Gaza, Yitzhak Mordechai, that the occupation army will outlast the Palestinians demonstrating in the streets is anything but naive since it reflects the twisted thinking of the Israeli leadership. But, the significance of Mordechai's words sinks in when seen in the light of the call by an Israeli minister to give Jewish settlers the licence to kill Palestinians in the occupied territories. To be sure, the Israeli leaders are indeed encouraged by the finding of recent opinion polls that a majority of Israelis want tougher measures to extinguish the uprising. Very conveniently forgotten in the bargain is the fact that the polls also found that an Israeli majority is calling for dialogue with the PLO. But then, the Israeli leaders are only moving true to form in absorbing what suits them best and discarding what doesn't.

The overall picture, seen against the backdrop of the foot-dragging by the Israeli leadership in peace efforts, is one of increased bloodshed and violence and is not exactly bright for Palestinian lives in the occupied territories. The Israelis are moving fast, trying to preempt events and situations unfavourable to them while leaving the international community as helpless bystanders. Let us warn and be warned; time is the essence in the Middle East equation, and any delay, whether from the PLO, the Arabs, the U.S., the European Community, the non-aligned world or any other concerned party with influence plays right into Israel's waiting arms.

### JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily newspaper on Wednesday reflected on the Jordanian family's observation of the 36th anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of his constitutional powers. Through these powers the King was able to bring about a real cohesion among the members of the Jordanian family and to bolster ties between the leadership and people, said the paper. Over the past 36 years the Jordanian people were aware of the fact that King, through his endeavours and continued work and dedication to serve his nation, was able to overcome the numerous hardships that confronted the nation, the paper added. The true relationship between the leader and his people, noted the paper, was underlined at the monarch's meetings with notables from various provinces of Jordan over the past few days. It said that the Jordanian people take pride in their Kingdom's achievements over the past 36 years under King Hussein who continues to play a leading national role to serve his nation at all levels.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily supports the formation of the newly created national committee for the protection of consumers but says its role should not be confined to preaching people on ways of handling their own lives. Salah Abdul Samad says that what consumers need is guidance on the most proper means for protecting their interests on the one hand and the real manipulators and dishonest merchants to avoid any dealings with them on the other. It is premature to say how successful this committee will be but it is hoped that its members will help the consumers by providing information about prices and about ways to discover those merchants and dealers who are likely to cheat the public, the writer notes. Abdul Samad expresses the view that the committee will be in great need of help from the ministries of industry and trade and supply, which can provide information about quality and price of various commodities and will be in need of the media through which its mission can be carried through the members of the public.

Al Dustour daily discussed King Hussein's meetings with notables representing the Governorate of Irbid at the Royal Court Monday. It said that the meeting reaffirms the King's policy of maintaining open channels of communication with his people to know about their needs and their grievances and to help achieve their aspirations. The King's conversations with the representatives of people and his consultations with them about the future steps are bound to give a new impetus to the march towards development and modernisation, the paper added. The paper reiterated the King's statement in which he stressed that the burden is heavy but would seem lighter if all citizens participated in shouldering it with responsibility and confidence.

# Too many players, but only one loser

By P.V. Vivekanand

MY BOOK of philosophy classifies problems as: 60 per cent will just fade away if you just leave them alone; 20 per cent will be solved if you put in an effort; 10 per cent need a real, hard effort; that leaves the final 10 per cent which will remain unresolved no matter how hard you try. The only problem that lingers is how you classify your problems.

It would appear that the Afghan problem belongs to the final category: or at least that is the impression that one gets from the shape of things in the region after the much-heralded Soviet military withdrawal from Afghanistan after 10 years of bloodshed which, by most estimates, claimed over a million Afghan lives.

The Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah has confounded Western predictions by making good its vow to defend itself against the Mujahedeen. Najibullah, having reinstated the "Allah" part of his name after relinquishing it for some time, is seeking to portray himself as a devout Muslim and alternately extending an olive branch and a gun to the rebels, whose religious fervour had always painted the Afghan conflict as a "Muslim vs. communists" war rather than a superpower proxy battle. Najibullah, obviously aware of the dire consequences of a false step, is also trying frantically to bring in deeper international involvement in the draconian task of mediating the Kabul-Mujahedeen rift; hence, his open accusations, well-founded or otherwise, of direct Pakistani military involvement in his beleaguered country.

On the rebel side, little seems to be going right. Disorganised as they are, infighting and power struggles mark their "holy war" against the "kufar" in Kabul. Gone are their hopes pinned on toppling Najibullah in a matter of weeks after the Soviet pullout. The assault on the eastern city of Jalalabad with the aim of capturing a strategic prize has gone awry. International recognition is also hard to come by for their government-in-exile. One can understand the bitterness they feel towards the Kabul regime for the swath of blood in Afghanistan, but no one seems to have convinced them enough is enough and it is time to forget and forgive, at least for the sake of their brothers and sisters who survived the slaughter.

Those pulling the strings in Moscow and Washington are trying hard to safeguard their own interests. All indications are that the Soviet Union, having paid a very heavy price for its military involvement, wants a political solution which will, as the bottom line, ensure that whoever is in power in Kabul does not transform the country into a staunch anti-Soviet satellite. Moscow is more than willing to foot at least half the cost involved in rebuilding Afghanistan, if only to avoid a devoted anti-Communist pro-Western regime assuming power in Kabul. Worse still for Moscow is the prospect of rigid Islamic fundamentalists rearing their head to its south-west and adding to the roars of the Iranian brand of

religious fundamentalism coming from further west.

At stake for the Soviet Union is also diplomatic rapprochement with Saudi Arabia and other Islamic states, which saw Moscow's involvement in Afghanistan as an impediment to better ties.

In Washington, American policymakers seem baffled over what to do next. Indeed, they want to capitalise on the Soviet exit from Afghanistan and ensure that their almost unlimited aid and assistance to the Mujahedeen throughout the years does not go to waste; a sure prospect if Najibullah and company retains the reins of power with a "national reconciliation" between the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Mujahedeen alliance based in Pakistan. American predictions of an easy fall of Najibullah have proved wrong and now Washington faces the not-too-enviable task of trying to tame the tiger it has by the tail since the Mujahedeen are sending unmistakable growls of independent thinking to their Western supporters.

Caught in-between the superpowers and its own national interests and burdens, Pakistan is grappling with a deep split between the political and military establishments as to what approach to adopt. The government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is anxious to get it over with and see the return home of the two and odd million Afghan refugees so that Islamabad can turn its full attention to remodelling and rebuilding Pakistan and consolidating its new-found democracy. The Pakistani military appears to have a different view of things. It cannot afford to impart an impression of being weak, particularly that the Indians are flexing their muscles to the east. By the same token, the military leaders in Pakistan are anxious to ensure that the U.S. will maintain some semblance of the level of defence assistance to Pakistan as it used to at the height of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. So, the scenario warrants that the Americans get what they want in Afghanistan, or at least what the Pakistani military can contribute without ruffling too many political feathers.

The Iranians are stuck with their own share of Afghan refugees as well as Shi'ite "Jihad" fighters who seem to agree on nothing with their Pakistan-based Sunni counterparts except that Najibullah should go. It is difficult to gauge the extent of Iran's vested interests in Afghanistan, if indeed there are any at this point in time in light of the improved Soviet-Iranian ties. But Tehran is sure to pitch in and throw a big spanner in the American works if the Afghan rebels based in Iran score any kind of a military victory against Kabul. Precisely the reason why the Americans are wary of extending any meaningful help to rebels further than the Afghan side of the border with Iran.

The United Nations, having worked hard to produce the Geneva accord that led to the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, has now been turned to another bystander, particularly after the Mujahedeen let off broadside salvos against its efforts to resurrect an Afghanistan based on a traditional communal leadership structure. Its call for "national reconciliation" and

appeal for a broad-based government in Kabul have been rejected out of hand by the Mujahedeen. Well, it is only logical that the U.N., being the neutral world organisation that it is, has to draw a line and pull back when it reaches a point where it is forced to take sides before going any further. Needless to say, even at this point, its call for a broad government can easily be construed as pro-Soviet since it is precisely the kind of solution that Moscow has been calling for.

If anything, the appeals that the U.N. relief agencies have been issuing for urgent food to feed needy Afghans in Kabul are indicative of the diminishing political role the world body plays in the quagmire.

Where does the Arab and Islamic support for the Mujahedeen fit into this scenario? Religious considerations apart, it was easy to understand and appreciate the wholehearted support from some Arab states for the Mujahedeen throughout the years since the threat was ever present of the Russian bear changing its direction and heading towards the strategic Arabian Gulf as long as Soviet policy continued to be steered by hardcore traditionalist Communist leaders in Moscow. Though it is difficult to ignore the wisdom that "old habits die hard," it is safe to say that the Soviet Union under Mikhail Gorbachev is not exactly eager to embark on another military adventure so soon after the Afghan debacle. Beset with internal unrest and preoccupied as they are with fundamental reforms in Moscow, Kremlin strategists need no reminders that it would be too expensive to entertain, let alone pursue, any military designs on the oil or the consequent strategic value of the Arabian Gulf.

Overlooked in the entire bargain is the plight of the millions of Afghan civilians who fled their homes and lands to escape the fighting and now live in squalid refugee camps in neighbouring countries. From all accounts, a majority of them could not care less who assumes power in Kabul as long as they are left to their devices to plough their land or whatever and make a living. Recently in Delhi, I asked an anti-Soviet Afghan demonstrator what exactly was he demonstrating for: "Don't ask me," he said in broken Urdu. "My family was assured of a midday meal after this rally, and that is why I am holding this banner," which, incidentally, read "death to Gorbachev" in English.

"Of course I want to go back," he said after a moment of thought. "I hope they rot in hell for the death of our millions. But that doesn't solve our problem. We have to go back and patch up our lives. But they are bloodthirsty."

Who are "they"? I asked. There was no hesitation. "The Russians, the Americans, the Mujahedeen, the fowj (government soldiers), every last one of them. The Russians help the fowj and the Americans help the Mujaheds. Who gets killed? The fowji and the Mujahed. I wish they leave us Afghans alone to settle our problems among ourselves."

I rest my case.

## Figures from turbulent past still active in Turkish politics

By John Owen-Davies  
Reuters

ANKARA — Major political figures from Turkey's turbulent past are looking confidently to the future as Prime Minister Turgut Ozal struggles to hold his ruling Motherland Party together.

Suleyman Demirel, prime minister for 10 of the years between 1965 and 1980 and twice ousted by the army, once again has the scent of victory.

Also back in the reckoning are staunch anti-Communist Alparslan Turkes, Muslim fundamentalist Necmettin Erbakan and Social Democrat Bulent Ecevit, who became a national hero when he sent troops to Cyprus in 1974.

Ozal came to power in 1983, three years after a military coup. The 1980 coup was launched to end extremist political violence in the late 1970s which claimed more than 5,000 lives.

Demirel, who was among many politicians held by the army after the coup, is hoping to cash in on a humiliating defeat for Ozal's Motherland Party in local elections in March.

"Mr. Ozal's days are numbered. He cannot last much longer," said Demirel, pursuing a campaign for early general elections.

The Motherland won just over a fifth of the national vote in the municipal polls, trailing behind Demirel's centre-right True Path Party and the Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP).

Demirel, 64, said that about 100 deputies in Ozal's factionalised party were members of his old Justice Party and were ready to rejoin him.

All pre-1980 parties were dissolved by the military, which allowed only three new parties to contest the general elections in 1983.

"I don't have any ill-feeling for the military and the military does not have any ill-feeling for me," Demirel told Reuters. "I am a democrat. I believe in the power of the people. I love my people. That is the reason for my success."

In a country where two-thirds of the electorate regularly votes right of centre, Demirel, who now controls 58 seats in the 450-member parliament, believes early general elections would work to his advantage.

He firmly ruled out cooperation with Ozal, 61, his former protegee, saying: "I would not do a deal with him... we are not friends now. We just exchange 'hellos'."

Demirel was asked if he would once again offer cabinet jobs to Turkes and Erbakan to help to ensure a workable government, as he did in 1977 when both were deputy premiers.

"I don't think there will be a necessity," he replied, adding that their right-wing parties were unlikely to poll the 10 per cent of the vote needed to gain parliamentary seats.

Senior Western diplomats, some of whom have beaten a path to Demirel's office since the March polls, said he had already

started talks with Turkes, now in his 70s.

Erbakan, 63, and to an extent Turkes, are anathema to the army which regards itself as guardian of the democratic and secular vision of modern Turkey's founder, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.

Erbakan's Welfare Party (RP) took 9.8 per cent of the vote in March, followed by Ecevit's Democratic Left Party with 8.9 per cent and Turkes's Nationalists with 4.1 per cent.

Such small but significant support could help any of the three major parties to gain a parliamentary majority, for which about one-third of the national vote is needed.

Turkes is identified with the Grey Wolves, an underground rightist group blamed for some of the fiercest extremist street battles of the 1970s.

In the 1970s, universities in Turkey were organised for a Communist uprising," Turkes told Reuters late last year.

"Communism is an ideology. Only a stronger ideology can beat it, hence the setting up of the Grey Wolves. But it was infiltrated by intelligence agents and the fighting started," he said. The Grey Wolf is the symbol of Turkish nationalism.

Ecevit, 64, who ordered Turkish troops into north Cyprus in 1974 after a short-lived Greek-inspired coup in Nicosia, sees himself as standard-bearer of

Turkey's true Social Democrats. He alternated three times as prime minister with Demirel in the 1970s during a period of weak coalition governments and has refused to enter any deal with the SHP, which embraces leftists.

But most political eyes are on Demirel, who draws massive crowds in the countryside.

"I am not saying that I never made mistakes," said Demirel, forced into a humiliating foreign debt rescheduling in 1979-80.

Asked if his return would worry foreign bankers, he said: "They are not unhappy with us... We are conservatives and we have a great respect for the fact that everybody should do as they want, and we have great respect for ownership."

A former member of Sudan's parliament as well as a former minister of culture and information and of industry and finance in Sudan's southern region, Malwal spent a year in detention under the Numeiri regime for political reasons. In his introduction of Malwal, moderator Eddie N. Williams, a member of NED's

board of directors, noted that

Malwal's newspaper has been among the leaders in the struggle for human rights in Sudan.

Malwal appeared on one of several regional panel discussions on democratic changes and pressures for change taking place throughout the world. The world survey examined countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

It is difficult to say where Sudan fits in the democratic movement of the world, or even of Africa because, even though the people of Sudan have demonstrated over the last 34 years of independence their choice is

has come to realise it must recognise these principles.

"The idea of pluralism and democracy seems to be so intertwined in the experience of Sudan that, if that country has a chance to survive as a nation, it will have to accept pluralism and democracy as the bases for national unity," he said.

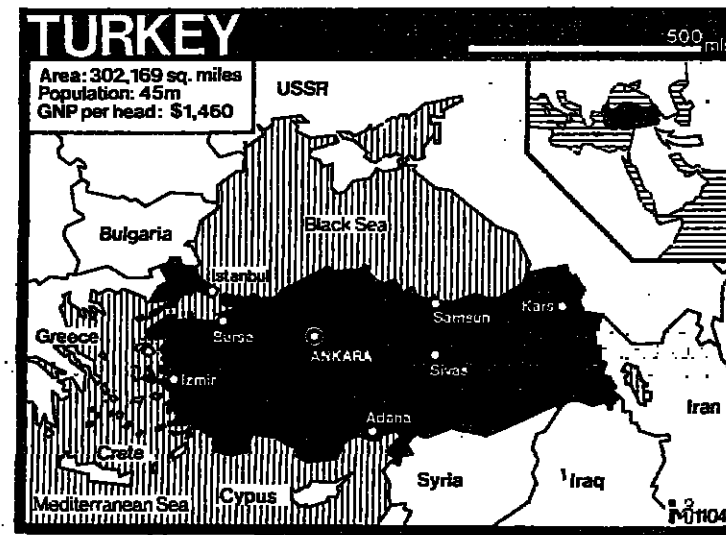
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## 'Sudan needs democracy to survive'

By Jim Shevits

WASHINGTON — The majority of Sudanese people, both northerners and southerners, believe that without democracy the country cannot stand, Sudan Times chief editor Bona Malwal told a National Endowment for Democracy (NED) panel here May 1.

"The country — with all its problems, or in spite of them — must move toward greater democratisation because in democracy lies the future and the hopes of the Sudan," he said.

Malwal said he has "no illusions that the way ahead is easy." But he said he believes the current government headed by Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi

has come to realise it must recognise these principles.

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It is difficult to say where Sudan fits in the democratic movement of the world, or even of Africa because, even though the people of Sudan have demonstrated over the last 34 years of independence their choice is

democracy, at least twice,

perhaps more, that yearning for democracy has been subverted by what I call the centralists, the people who want to keep the status quo which colonialism had left the Sudan in," Malwal said.

There's been a cycle of power brokers that "we hope strong democratic nations like the United States would help us break out of," he said.

"We have spent our young life as a nation changing from military dictatorship into multiparty democracy, the third experiment of which is the one we are in right now."

It has not been easy for democratic activists to keep alive the

ideal of diversity and pluralism in

Sudan, Malwal said. A poor country, with nearly one million square miles and nine neighbouring countries, most of which have their own problems, Sudan has had two bloody civil wars as well as fluctuations between military dictatorship and democratic rule, he noted.

He paid tribute to the conference's organisers for their efforts to sustain the world democratic revolution. "Those of us who sit in the darkness in our part of the world feel so distant and so far away from the democratic world that it helps to be occasionally in a governing democracy as we are this morning" — USIA.

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## EN BRÈVE

### Les Etats-Unis menacent l'OMS

Le secrétaire d'Etat américain a accusé lundi de complot la santé mondiale de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS), si l'OLP y était admise comme Etat membre. James Baker a déclaré que les Etats-Unis étaient "catégoriquement opposés" à une telle éventualité, qui selon lui constituerait "du terrorisme" au processus de paix au Proche-Orient, ainsi qu'au "système des Nations-Unies". L'ambassadeur de la Ligne arabe à Washington a qualifié de "profondément regrettable" les déclarations de M. Baker, qui font suite à la demande d'adhésion à l'OMS formulée par l'OLP. La commission américaine à l'Organisation mondiale de la santé est estimée à près de 74 millions de dollars pour 1990, soit le quart du budget ordinaire de l'Organisation.

### Le Sud-Yémen souhaite adhérer au CCA

Le ministre sud-yéménite des Affaires étrangères, M. Abdel Aziz Daili, a affirmé lundi au Caire que son pays souhaitait se joindre à la Jordanie, l'Egypte, l'Irak et le Yémen du Nord au sein du Conseil de coopération arabe (CCA). La déclaration de M. Aziz Daili faisait suite à un entretien de plus de deux heures avec son homologue égyptien, M. Esmat Abdel Meguid.

### Appel au cessez-le-feu au Soudan

Le colonel John Garang, commandant en chef de l'Armée populaire de libération du Soudan (SPLA), a appelé lundi le gouvernement de Khartoum à observer un cessez-le-feu tout au long du mois de mai. Favorable à des négociations avec le pouvoir, le colonel Garang a assorti son offre de plusieurs conditions dont l'absence de mouvement de troupes pendant la trêve.

### Il était une fois Sergio Leone

Le cinéaste italien Sergio Leone, père du "western spaghetti", est décédé d'une crise cardiaque dimanche à Rome. Né en 1929, il avait débuté trente ans plus tard dans le septième art en réalisant un péplum. "Les derniers jours de Pompeï". Dans les années 1960, il avait donné un nouveau souffle au western, alors en perte de vitesse. L'heure du triomphe devait sonner en 1968 avec "Il était une fois dans l'Ouest", premier film d'une série qu'il poursuivait avec "Il était une fois la révolution" (1971), puis "Il était une fois l'Amérique" (1984). Depuis, Sergio Leone s'était lancé dans un ambitieux projet: une reconstitution de la bataille de Stalingrad.

### Une ville d'Iran envahie par des papillons

Des milliers de papillons migrateurs ont envahi le week-end dernier une petite ville du nord-est de l'Iran, proche de la frontière soviétique. La densité d'insectes a considérablement gêné la circulation dans la nuit de dimanche à lundi. Selon des agronomes iraniens, la sécheresse du printemps pourrait être à l'origine de ce "raid" inopiné.

### Le perroquet interdit de séjour au Koweït

Pittance non grata. Le Koweït vient d'interdire l'introduction et l'élevage du perroquet à l'intérieur de ses frontières. Motif: ce drôle d'oiseau est susceptible de véhiculer sous ses plumes plusieurs virus transmissibles aux poulets d'élevages, qui représentent 40% de la consommation locale.

### Sheffield: Liverpool s'élance

Liverpool a accepté de rejouer dimanche prochain sa demi-finale de coupe d'Angleterre de football contre Nottingham Forest, interrompue le 15 avril à Sheffield, par le décès de 95 spectateurs. La rencontre se disputera sur la pelouse de l'Old Trafford à Manchester.

### Un poid lourd qui pèse 22 millions de dollars

Le boxeur américain Mike Tyson, champion du monde des poids lourds, ne bat pas que ses adversaires, il pulvérise aussi les prix. Avec la somme astronomique de 22,133,333 dollars de gains en 1988, il est sans conteste le sportif le plus payé de la planète. Le rapport entre les "salaires" et le temps passé sur les rings constitue lui aussi un record. Le vainqueur new-yorkais a accumulé son magot en trois rencontres, soit sept rounds. Qui dit mieux?

## Fêtes... et devoirs

Jour J moins deux pour la fin du Ramadan. Dès samedi, l'immense majorité des Jordaniens renouvelleront avec l'authenticité petit déjeuner et surtout avec le repas de la mi-journée. Fête gastronomique, "Id al-Fitar" rime aussi avec devoirs familiaux et déjà pour certains avec préparation du pèlerinage à la Mecque, en juillet prochain.

"Samedi sera un jour de grandes réjouissances". A l'instar de plus de 90% des Jordaniens, Ahmed, employé de banque à Amman, attend désormais avec impatience le premier jour de l'après-Ramadan. Au terme de vingt-neuf jours de jeûne, il va célébrer le "Id al-Saghir" (petite fête) ou "Id al-Fitar", comme on l'appelle ici. Une manifestation qui demeure l'une des plus honorées de l'Islam et qui se traduira par trois jours de congés pour les salariés du Royaume.

"La journée débutera aux alentours de 5h30 par une prière spéciale à la mosquée", explique Fouad J. al-Kayed, du ministère des Affaires religieuses. Rares seront ceux qui manqueront ce premier rendez-vous collectif. "On retrouvera les amis, souligne Ahmed, et ce sera à qui portera les plus beaux habits". La fête ne fera alors que commencer. Une fois rentré chez soi, chacun s'installera devant un

copieux petit déjeuner, traditionnellement précédé d'une bénédiction, "Id Mubarak". Viendront ensuite les effusions familiales. "Les parents et les enfants s'embrassent et se félicitent de leurs jeunes respects", précise Fouad al-Kayed.

Point culminant du "Id al-Fitar": le repas de midi. "Chez presque tout le monde, on mangera un mamsaf, le plat national jordanien", poursuit-il. On le dégustera en famille ou on le partagera avec les voisins et les amis, comme c'est encore le cas dans de nombreux villages. Parmi les invités figurent souvent quelques musiciens, qui amorcent un début de fête villageoise.

A l'exultation, se mêle le devoir familial. "La fin du jeûne doit s'accompagner pour tout musulman d'une pensée pour sa famille, au sens le plus large du terme", insiste Fouad al-Kayed. Une pensée active, qui commande de rendre visite à ses parents, ses frères et sœurs... "Je dois aller saluer cinquante personnes, explique Ahmed. Depuis ma mère, qui habite près de Tafieh, jusqu'à des cousins de Salt". Sans oublier, à chaque voyage, d'offrir un peu d'argent à ceux qui en ont le plus besoin.

A Amman, vous aurez peut-être la chance de découvrir ici ou là un embryon de fête foraine.

(A.R.)

## 36 ans de règne

### Hussein, l'infatigable

De Caire à Bagdad, en passant par les capitales du Golfe, le roi Hussein n'a cessé depuis son accession effective au trône, le 2 mai 1953, de déployer ses efforts pour réunifier, consolider la nation arabe. La dynamique du souverain jordanien, jointe à sa longue expérience de la politique au Proche-Orient, fait sans doute de lui le leader le mieux placé pour jouer le rôle de médiateur et parfois de guide au service des intérêts des pays arabes.

Echappant à une dizaine d'attentats, le roi Hussein a su esquisser les foudres égyptiennes qui menaçaient son trône dans les années 1950 et 1960, à la suite notamment de la prise du pouvoir au Caire par Nasser. Evénement qui devait provoquer la chute de la monarchie irakienne en 1958.

Ouvrant sans cesse pour la réconciliation des frères ennemis irakien et syrien, il a été et reste, au côté de l'Arabie Saoudite, l'artisan du rapprochement en ces deux pays. Damas et le Caire et de la réintégration progressive de l'Egypte au sein de la Ligue arabe. Donnant le ton, Amman a été la première à renouer avec le Caire. C'est sous l'impulsion du roi Hussein que le sommet arabe de novembre 1987, réuni dans la capitale jordanienne, a en effet permis que le rétablissement des relations diplomatiques avec

L'Egypte relevait de la souveraineté de chaque Etat. Sollicité par les Etats-Unis et Israël pour des négociations directes dans le cadre d'un règlement du conflit israélo-arabe, le monarque jordanien a provoqué, en rompant avec la Cisjordanie, le coup de théâtre d'Alger où l'OLP a reconnu les résolutions 242 et 338 du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU. Lancé au sommet d'Amman, son slogan pour la compréhension et l'entente s'est concrétisé par une attitude arabe unifiée en faveur d'une conférence internationale de paix. Sa dernière initiative unitaire réside dans la création du Conseil de coopération arabe (CCA). Le roi Hussein y voit les jalons d'un marché commun, à l'instar de la CEE.

L'étape la plus importante pour y parvenir demeure la réalisation de la paix, qui bute toujours sur le refus catégorique d'Israël de reconnaître l'OLP et de négocier avec elle. La balle est aujourd'hui dans le camp américain. Si les Etats-Unis ne détiennent pas 99% des cartes du Proche-Orient, comme l'indiquait l'ancien président égyptien Anouar el-Sadate, ils disposent au moins de la carte maîtresse: Israël.

Nabil Rached.

## La visite de Yasser Arafat à Paris

### Clarification et caducité

Yasser Arafat a qualifié "d'utile et réussi" son entretien de plus d'une heure et demi avec François Mitterrand, mardi à Paris. Le président français a pour sa part indiqué sa "satisfaction" tout en demandant au chef de l'OLP de clarifier la position de la centrale palestinienne sur le droit à l'existence d'Israël. M. Arafat devait également rencontrer Michel Rocard hier après-midi.

Le président François Mitterrand a donné acte mardi à Yasser Arafat du tournant amorcé par l'OLP depuis novembre 1988 en faveur d'un règlement pacifique du conflit israélo-palestinien. Premier chef d'Etat d'un pays membre du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU à recevoir officiellement le leader de la centrale palestinienne, M. Mitterrand a néanmoins précisé à son interlocuteur que la communauté internationale attendait de lui un certain nombre de clarifications avant de l'agréer totalement.

Le président français a ainsi noté, selon le porte-parole de l'Elysée, que "le maintien en vigueur de la Charte de l'OLP, adoptée en 1964, était contraire en des points importants au programme politique adopté le 15 novembre dernier par le Conseil national palestinien d'Alger".

Position qui répond aux préoccupations d'Israël et de la diaspora juive, qui estiment que ce document stipule la destruction par étapes de l'Etat hébreu.

Selon le chef de l'OLP, la charte fondamentale palestinienne est "dépassée de fait". Une "caducité" que Yasser Arafat a affirmée et répétée tout au long des entretiens qu'il a eus pendant deux jours avec les responsables politiques français. Qualifiant "d'utile et réussi" son tête-à-tête avec François Mitterrand, il a également estimé que cette rencontre devrait "donner une nouvelle impulsion" à un règlement pacifique du conflit israélo-arabe.

Yasser Arafat a été reçu mardi après-midi par le ministre des Affaires étrangères, Roland Dumas, puis par le premier secrétaire du Parti socialiste, Pierre Mauroy. Après ses rencontres hier matin avec une délégation du Parti communiste, puis de parlementaires français, il devait s'entretenir avec le premier ministre, Michel Rocard.

Grande absente de la visite officielle du chef de l'OLP, l'opposition a critiqué l'initiative du président Mitterrand. L'ancien premier ministre, Jacques Chirac, a estimé lundi depuis Boston que la "clé du mouvement pour la paix au Proche-Orient ne passe pas par l'OLP mais par le chef du

gouvernement israélien Yizhak Shamir". Valéry Giscard d'Estaing s'est quant à lui borné à "regretter" le caractère officiel de l'événement.

Quoi qu'il en soit, ce voyage de quarante-huit heures à Paris représente une nouvelle victoire diplomatique de l'OLP. Victoire qui donne de nouveaux arguments aux pacifistes israéliens. Bien que M. Shamir l'ait qualifiée "d'antenne à l'amitié entre Israël et la France", la rencontre Arafat-Mitterrand a fait encore progresser la reconnaissance de la centrale palestinienne comme interlocuteur véritable. Elle place le gouvernement de Tel Aviv dans une situation inconfortable au moment même où les Etats-Unis lui demandent de fournir une présentation détaillée, sous deux mois, de sa proposition d'élections dans les territoires occupés. (D'après agences).

Le représentant personnel de Yasser Arafat au Liban, Issam Salem, a été grièvement blessé mardi à Saïda par une rafale de fusil-mitrailleur. L'attentat, qui n'a pas été revendiqué, est intervenu quelques heures seulement après l'arrivée du leader de l'OLP à Paris. Un autre responsable du Fatha, principale formation de la centrale palestinienne, a été abattu mercredi dans la même ville.

## Damas-le Caire: sur la voie du dialogue

Les présidents égyptien et syrien pourraient se rencontrer lundi prochain en Arabie Saoudite à l'occasion de la visite de vingt-quatre heures que M. Mubarak doit effectuer dans ce pays, à l'invitation du roi Fahd. Damas, qui avait rompu ses relations diplomatiques avec le Caire en 1977, se montre en effet disposé depuis quelques mois à entamer un véritable rapprochement. La semaine dernière, le ministre syrien des Affaires étrangères, M. Farouk el-Chareh, avait notamment indiqué que son pays était prêt à examiner la réintégration de l'Egypte au sein de la Ligue arabe.

Le contrôle maritime privait les partisans du gouvernement de Salim Hoss de l'une de ses principales sources de financement. En riposte, l'artillerie, déployée dans les régions sous contrôle syrien, a bombardé quotidiennement le littoral du pays chrétien pour empêcher toute approche des ports de Beyrouth et de Jounieh, tenus par la milice des forces libanaises alliée du chef du gouvernement chrétien. La COM restait l'obstacle principal à l'application du cessez-le-feu demandé par la Ligue arabe jeudi dernier, et qui aurait au être

## Liban Aoun fait un geste

Le général Aoun a prononcé hier la dissolution de la Chambre des opérations maritimes (COM). Sa création, qui visait à empêcher l'accès des ports tenus par les milices pro-syriennes, est à l'origine de désagréments de violence qui ont fait 292 morts et 1276 blessés depuis le 14 mars du Liban.

En décrétant, hier, la dissolution de la Chambre des opérations maritimes, le général Aoun a fait un geste décisif pour parvenir à un cessez-le-feu au Liban, après sept semaines de violents affrontements. Son cabinet avait mis le feu aux poudres, début mars, en instaurant, via la COM, un blocus sur les trois ports tenus par les milices pro-syriennes au sud de Beyrouth.

Ce contrôle maritime privait les partisans du gouvernement de Salim Hoss de l'une de ses principales sources de financement. En riposte, l'artillerie, déployée dans les régions sous contrôle syrien, a bombardé quotidiennement le littoral du pays chrétien pour empêcher toute approche des ports de Beyrouth et de Jounieh, tenus par la milice des forces libanaises alliée du chef du gouvernement chrétien.

La COM restait l'obstacle principal à l'application du cessez-le-feu demandé par la Ligue arabe jeudi dernier, et qui aurait au être

effectif à partir de vendredi midi. Le conseil des ministres de la Ligue avait, en outre, spécifié que le cessez-le-feu impliquait la levée des blocus de toutes sortes imposés par les belligérants ainsi que l'envoi d'un corps d'observateurs arabes. Les partis pro-syriens, quant à eux, avaient réaffirmé lundi dans un communiqué, qu'ils faisaient dépendre la fin des combats de la suspension de l'activité de la COM. La décision du général Aoun pourrait donc déboucher le plan de "pacification" prôné par la Ligue arabe. L'application du cessez-le-feu devrait permettre, en outre, l'acostage du pétrolier Penhors, bloqué au large de Beyrouth depuis lundi par les duels d'artillerie. Le navire français doit approvisionner en fuel la centrale électrique de Zouk, au nord de Beyrouth et le terminal de Zahran, au sud de la capitale. L'usine de Zouk, qui alimente plus de 2 millions de Libanais, ne fonctionne que trois heures par jour et attend encore 10 000 des 15 000 tonnes de carburant, offertes par la CEE, pour reprendre un fonctionnement normal.

M. Salim Hoss, soutenu par la Syrie, avait présenté ses excuses à la CEE, lundi, "pour avoir été dans l'impossibilité de tenir ses engagements".

## Voitures d'occasion transformées en luxueuses limousines

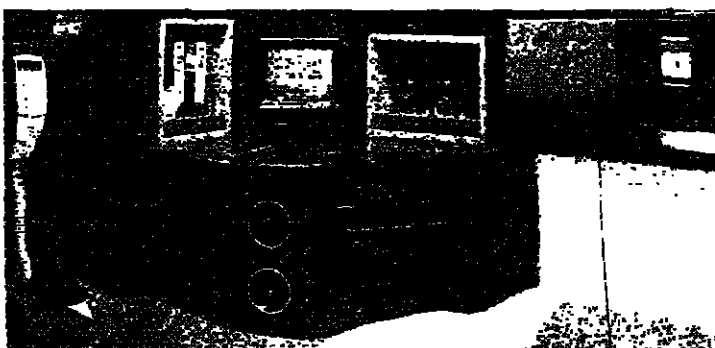
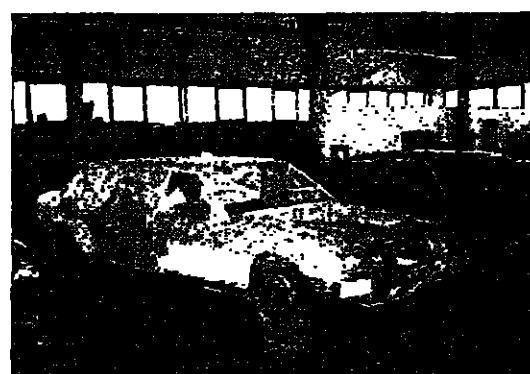
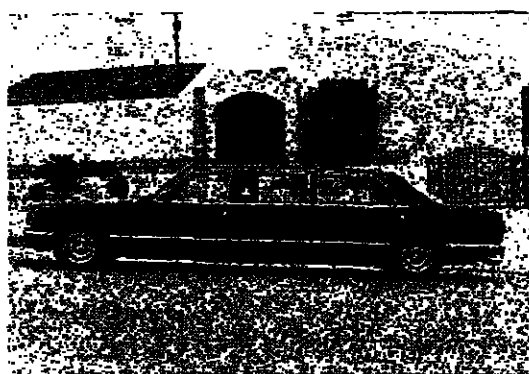
### L'enjoliveur des Mercedes

Intérieurs cuir ou velours, télévision, réfrigérateur, téléphone... Depuis un an et demi, l'entreprise Fast automobile transforme de "simples" Mercedes en limousines de cinq à six mètres de long. Sa principale clientèle: les riches familles des pays du Golfe, mais aussi la haute société jordanienne, qui lui confie la réparation ou le "lifting" de ses voitures.

Prenez une Mercedes de n'importe quel modèle et coupez-la franchement en deux. Préparez ensuite une troisième pièce, d'un mètre de long, comprenant deux portières, un chassis et un toit. Placez-la entre les deux morceaux du véhicule initial, et assemblez-les. Ajoutez encore à l'intérieur deux banquettes en vis-à-vis, puis encastrez comme bon vous semble un bar avec comptoir en bois, une télévision, un téléphone, une chaîne hi-fi et, si ça vous tente, un mini-réfrigérateur. Liez enfin le tout avec un beau cuir ou un velours de la meilleure qualité.

La recette de la limousine n'a plus de secret pour la société Fast. Depuis fin 1987, elle fait même la fortune de cette petite entreprise familiale, installée sur la zone industrielle du wadi Sir. A la cadence de deux métamorphoses par mois, l'atelier des Khoury Père et fils a pris désormais son rythme de croisière. Atout maître de la compagnie: l'absence totale de concurrence régionale. "Nous sommes les seuls à proposer un tel service au Proche-Orient, sinon même au Moyen-Orient", souligne Maurice S. Khoury, qui, à 25 ans, cumule les fonctions de vice-président de la société et de responsable de la bonne marche de l'usine.

Créée par son père en octobre 1986, la société ne s'est lancée dans cette aventure qu'un an plus tard. "A l'origine, nous voulions ouvrir un garage plus sophistiqué que ceux qui existent en Jordanie", poursuit Maurice Khoury. Avec 25 ans d'expérience au Liban derrière nous, le pari ne comportait pas trop de risques.



D'autant moins que jordanien, qui lui donne le droit de couper les chassis des Mercedes, et rien que des Mercedes, la société s'est ensuite mise à la recherche de tous les modèles à vendre sur le marché national. "Dès le début, nous nous sommes adressés en priorité aux ambassadeurs et aux entreprises", explique Maurice Khoury, pour acheter des véhicules de première main". D'autres voitures d'occasion, sélectionnées selon les mêmes critères, ont été importées d'Allemagne.

200 000 F.

Rentabilité oblige; la compagnie a dans le même temps pratiquement divisé ses effectifs ouvriers par deux. "Nous avons gardé 28 de nos 52 mécaniciens, qui ont été entraînés pendant trois mois sur les nouvelles machines",

souligne le responsable de l'usine. Triés sur le volet, ils sont tous capables de travailler sur n'importe quelle Mercedes, des plus anciennes au modèle dernier cri. Le résultat est éloquent. S'adaptant à leurs différentes caractéristiques, ils les resculpent comme d'autres font muniuse avec de la pâte à modeler.

Leur tour de main a rapidement séduit les riches Saoudiens et Koweïtiens, principaux clients de Fast et qui régulièrement se délestent de 100 000 à 200 000 francs, histoire de s'offrir une voiture un peu plus longue que les autres, dotée des gadgets les plus sophistiqués, et répondant au doux nom de "Pétra 1". "Pétra 2" ou encore "Jérash". Nos prix sont les plus bas du monde, soutient Maurice Khoury. En Europe ou aux Etats-Unis, les limousines coûtent au moins le double.

Certains se déplacent parfois

jusqu'à Amman avec l'une de leurs Mercedes "classiques" et commandent, qui sa simple transformation en limousine de cinq à six mètres de long (50 000 F.), qui avec en option la télévision, le téléphone ou encore le réfrigérateur... "Nous pouvons répondre à pratiquement tous les souhaits", ajoute le responsable de Fast.

### Voiture de chasse

A condition bien sûr que la fantaisie du client ne franchisse pas certaines limites. "Nous travaillons par exemple pour un prince saoudien qui nous a demandé de transformer son 4X4 en voiture de chasse. Nous lui installons un siège arrière surélevé pour qu'il puisse tirer du véhicule ou lacher son faucon". Manifestement fou de la marque ouest-allemande, le même client a également exigé que l'avant et l'arrière de son automobile "ressemblent à une Mercedes 500".

Malgré la vogue des limousines dans le Golfe, la compagnie n'a pas abandonné sa fonction initiale d'atelier de mécanique auto, auquel la haute société jordanienne confie la réparation de ses voitures, Mercedes ou non. "Les ministres et les fonctionnaires du Palais font partie de notre clientèle", lache Maurice Khoury, qui sans nommer personne ajoute que "certains" ont fait redessiner leur BMW ou autre Volvo afin qu'elle ait la ligne d'une voiture de sport.

Le fulgurant développement de l'entreprise n'empêche pas ses propriétaires de penser déjà à de nouveaux services. "Nous espérons construire des limousines blindées, car beaucoup de gens nous le demandent", précise Maurice Khoury. En attendant, Fast s'apprête à se lancer dans la location de certains de ses modèles. "Nous avons six voitures et trois chauffeurs qui n'attendent plus que l'autorisation du gouvernement pour se mettre au travail".

Alain Renon.

## Mots croisés

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										
B										
C										
D										
E										
F										
G										
H										
I										
J										

### Horizontalement.

1: Font vivre. 2: Elle fut d'or; enlève. 3: Commun dans la vallée du Jourdain; partie indivisible. 4: Demeure animale. 5: Attaché; fin d'année; article. 6: Initiative de défense stratégique; à la gauche du fils. 7: Note; saisons. 8: Pris par les anthropologues. 9: Sont ainsi. 10: L'information doit l'être; forme d'avoir.

### Verticalement.

A: Installé. B: Matière première des musiciens; dans le calendrier romain. C: Attrapé; ancienne monnaie. D: Spécialité; pronom personnel. E: Empire de l'automobile; homme en argot. F: Le temps d'une révolution. G: Peut être douce ou raide. H: En bonne place sur l'étalage du boucher. I: Forme d'être; période; article. J: Pronom personnel; tentes; appris.

(Solution ci-dessous)

## SORTIR

### Ramadan

### Premier marché international



"La Palestine", la Tunisie, le Pakistan participent jusqu'au week end prochain au premier marché international d'Amman, qui se tient au "Centre d'exposition" sur la route de l'aéroport. Au côté des exposants jordaniens, les ambassades des trois "pays invités" proposent quelques uns de leurs produits locaux. A défaut de trouver son bonheur culinaire, vestimentaire ou mobilier auprès de l'un ou l'autre des quelque cents exposants, on peut utilement s'arrêter au stand de l'ambassade de Palestine... et découvrir la culture de l'Intifada: Pommes de terre hérissées de clous, pierres (qui remplacent parfois les pompes des keffiyehs) et autres "armes", symboles du soulèvement palestinien dans les territoires occupés (notre photo). On peut également faire une halte devant une grande scène, installée au centre de l'immense hangar, et écouter les groupes folkloriques qui s'y produisent chaque soir devant plus de 10 000 spectateurs. Qui s'y produisent dans son agenda que le Centre international abritera le 10 juin une exposition militaire, à l'occasion de l'anniversaire de l'armée du royaume, et que s'y tiendra du 20 juillet au 20 août une "funny cars exhibition" d'une cinquantaine de voitures européennes et américaines revues et corrigées par les caprices de leurs propriétaires.

## A L'AFFICHE

### CINEMA

#### La rose pourpre du Caire

De Woody Allen, avec Mia Farrow, Jeff Daniels et Danny Aiello. L'extraordinaire aventure de Cécilia, servante sans le sou dans une petite ville des Etats-Unis à l'époque de la grande crise. Pour échapper à la grisaille de la vie quotidienne, elle va chaque jour au cinéma. Son film favori: "La rose pourpre du Caire", une comédie romantique dont l'acteur principal s'évade un soir pour la rencontrer...

Centre américain, jeudi 4 mai à 16h00 (en anglais).

#### Bill Cosby

L'acteur américain exprime, par sketches interposés de course, l'incommensurable joie qu'il éprouve à avoir 49 ans. Et ça dure plus d'une heure...

Centre américain, mardi 9 mai à 19h00 (en anglais).

#### Ciné-club

En raison du Ramadan, le ciné-club ne propose que deux séances (20h00 et 21h30) aujourd'hui et demain. A partir de samedi, retour aux horaires habituels (films respectivement à 13h00, 15h00, 17h00, 19h00 et 21h00).

## Solution des mots croisés

### Horizontalement.

1: Espérances. 2: Toison; ôte. 3: Anc; unité. 4: Gîte. 5: Lié; ee; les. 6: IDS; père. 7: Ré; étés. 8: Ossement. 9: Tels. 10: Source; eu.

### Verticalement.

A: Etalons. B: Son; Ides. C: Piégés; sou. D: Es; je. E: Routes; mcs. F: Année. G: Pente. H: Côtelette. I: Eté; être; le. J: se; ôtes; su.



## S. African weapons industry slackens

By Arthur Max  
The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — The 25-year-old arms embargo against South Africa has been beaten by cheating, smuggling and legal loopholes, but it still has stunted the growth of South Africa's military, according to a book published Wednesday.

Although it claims to be self-sufficient, the South African arms industry "owes its existence to foreign technology," most of it acquired legally, according to "embargo disimplemented," a study by Signe Landgren of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

But no matter how inefficient, the embargo remained one of the few military sanctions which can be imposed against South Africa, and is valuable as a political statement expressing world condemnation of the system of racial segregation, Landgren said.

The United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan, France, Israel and Italy were among the most helpful to South Africa's military, according to the study.

In the latest example of cloak-and-dagger acquisitions, French police arrested three members of a Northern Irish Protestant militia and a U.S. businessman last Saturday as they delivered stolen parts of a blowpipe missile launcher to a South African diplomat.

British news reports said the state-owned Armscor, the armaments corporation of South Africa, apparently supplied small arms or cash to Protestant extremists in exchange for blueprints of sophisticated British weaponry.

The United Nations imposed a voluntary arms embargo Aug. 7, 1963 on South Africa and made it mandatory in 1977. Sanctions were tightened in 1984 with a resolution discouraging countries from buying South African products.



duced weapons.

The arms ban often was ineffective, and even spurred the South Africans to build up their own arms industry, the study said.

But it also deprived Pretoria of updated weapons systems, restricted its access to new technologies and curtailed its supply of spare parts.

The embargo "has been a limiting factor to some extent in South Africa's efforts to expand its military strength," said the study, citing U.S. congressional testimony.

The study also quoted a 1985 U.N. report that buying smuggled or black market weapons added 20 to 100 per cent to the cost of arms procurements.

But no matter how inefficient, the embargo remained one of the few military sanctions which can be imposed against South Africa, and is valuable as a political statement expressing world condemnation of the system of racial segregation.

The embargo can be legally circumvented by importing civilian products with military applications, such as electronics and telecommunications gear, it said.

Nuclear technology was one area where the embargo failed to stop South African advances, the study said.

By the time the U.N. ordered a halt to nuclear cooperation in 1977, the study said, South Africa had acquired weapons-grade know-how to go with its vast uranium resources, the world's second largest reserves.

"Its possession of nuclear weapons remains an open question, but its capacity to produce such weapons is equal to that of almost any industrial nation in Europe," the book said.

Unlike Western restrictions on technology transfers to the Soviet bloc, no multinational organization exists to monitor the embargo against South Africa, and there is no list of banned goods to guide enforcement, Landgren said.

The 16-nation Cocom, the Paris-based coordinating committee for multinational export control set up in 1948, has a 300,000-item list of military contraband that could be applied in the case of South Africa, Landgren said.

South Africa's arms production capability was acquired through licensing agreements and by buying stakes in arms-making multinational companies, the study said.

In 1963 South Africa said it had 120 foreign licenses. Before the embargo was called, Pretoria gained licenses to produce weapons systems like the French Mirage jetfighter, the Israeli reshet gunboat and the Scorpion sea missile, also Israeli systems.

## Intifadah reaches the U.S. press

### MILITARY BASE CLOSINGS: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CONVERSION

# SOJOURNERS

AN INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN MONTHLY

82.75 APRIL 1988

## PALESTINE

WITH STONES, TAX RESISTANCE, BOYCOTTS, STRIKES, AND FLAGS, THE INTIFADA CONFRONTS THE WORLD'S FOURTH LARGEST MILITARY POWER. PALESTINIANS ARE WORKING TO SHAKE OFF THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION AND TO BUILD A NEW STATE THAT WILL LIVE IN PEACE WITH ISRAEL.



Cover of April 1989 Sojourners magazine featuring articles and photos by November delegate Vicki Kemper

Rebecca Neale of New Jersey wrote an article for the Burlington County Times. Phyllis Maisel of Punta Gorda, Florida, has been on several television and radio shows and has been featured in recent articles in the St. Petersburg Times, Bradenton Herald, and Charlotte Sun. She has also written two articles for the national APCE Advocate (Association of Presbyterian Church Educators). Norman Finkelstein, of Brooklyn, New York, has been a guest on many radio programmes, including the widely heard Barry Gray Show, and in Canada he gave several interviews and participated in a debate on CBC. Finally, Jacqueline Muth, of Durham, North Carolina, has appeared on radio and television programmes in

Columbus, Ohio; Huntington, West Virginia; and Chapel Hill, North Carolina; and has written articles for newspapers in Huntington, Chapel Hill and Raleigh. An article in the Huntington Herald Dispatch generated a heated debate during the last weeks of 1988.

Harriet Katz, a Los Angeles member of the peace activists delegation, did a moving Christmas day report for radio station KPFA about a family she had visited in Bethlehem. During the report, Katz said of the people gathered at the home of her Palestinian host, "Their fervent desire for peace filled the room."

"We have lost our land, our rights, our security, and now we are losing our children. We would like to stop losing these things," the host told Katz. "People are giving everything to the intifada — we have nothing now but the intifada."

Ruth Bann, of New York City, wrote a four-page article titled "The Occupation Must End" for the March issue of The Nonviolent Activist, the magazine of War Resisters League. Jane Wolfe, of Little Rock, had an article in the December 22 issue of the Arkansas Democrat, and Walt Miller, of Pullman, Oregon, was featured in a December 13 Evergreen article about the Palestine-Israeli conflict. The Lewiston Tribune published an article about his trip, and letters

by Miller were printed in The Herald and the Idahoian/Daily News.

As news editor of Sojourners magazine, Vicki Kemper, of Washington, D.C., coordinated a special April issue, whose focus and cover story are devoted to Palestine. J. Dennis Marker, also of Washington, has done interviews with The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Christian Science Monitor, Monitor Radio, The Miami Herald, and National Public Radio. Finally, Connie Hogarth, of White Plains, New York, had a piece about Palestinian life published in the December 21 Gannett Westchester Newspapers. In particular, she wrote about Jabalia refugee camp in Gaza where she spent several days with a Palestinian family.

During military-imposed curfews, when "everyone must stay indoors, sometimes for weeks... phones and electricity are cut off. The only phone working is at the small clinic run by UNRWA," wrote Hogarth.

"The only way to deal with life and death emergencies is for neighbours to break curfew to get on rooftops, or to hang on the walls, creating a human telephone until the message reaches the clinic where the sole ambulance can respond, if it isn't too late. This is the kind of hell reminiscent of South Africa. But it also builds an extraordinary unity among people under oppression."

Hogarth concluded in her article:

"The intifada will not go away. The shaking off of the occupation will continue, I am certain, until the Palestinian inalienable right of self-determination and independent political existence on Palestinian soil is recognised."

Regarding U.S. policy toward the conflict, Emerson said, "As long as this country supplies foreign aid to Israel, we are a participant in violations of international human rights laws."

The recent student delegation has produced accounts about its fact-finding tour on radio and in newspapers in Ohio, Iowa, and Wisconsin. Steve, of Seabee, of Kent, Ohio, wrote an op-ed piece in the Akron Beacon-Journal and was interviewed on a local radio station in January. Bruce Nestor, of Iowa City, wrote an article in The Progressive News, and Wie-Ling Huber, of Madison, Wisconsin, coordinated a feature article and centre spread about her trip to the occupied territories in the February 27 issue of The Madison Insurgent. The issue also featured poetry by student delegate Jacqueline Lalley — Eyewitness Israel report.

## 'Our Nature' versus 'law of the jungle'

Mounting international concern about the Amazon forest has prompted President Sarney to set out a "hands off" approach to the issue, insisting on Brazil's right to manage what he sees as its own affair.

By Carlos Castilho

BRASILIA — Four months after the murder of the rubber-tapper leader, Francisco "Chico" Mendes Filho, his murderers still go free.

But the cause which he championed has become headline news in newspapers throughout the world, provoking several international summit meetings on the future of the Amazon forest. It has also brought the debate on ecology to the centre of Brazilian politics.

The National Council of Rubber-Tappers, the body founded by Chico Mendes to represent almost 100,000 casual labourers and to preserve the native trees of the forest, has already been put forward for the Nobel Peace prize in 1989 by the Italian Environmental League.

Despite the widespread support for the rubber-tappers, and the Indians of the forest, many believe that "the law of the jungle" will continue to rule in Brazilian Amazonia, for as long as the death squads and landowners accused of the crimes go unpunished.

For within the jungle itself, Mendes' friends and successors continue to be persecuted. Osmarino Alves, the new leader of the rubber-tappers, was the target of a shooting attempt at the end of March in Acre province;

fortunately, he escaped.

After this murder attempt the rubber-tappers decided that they would no longer have one person at their head — in order to thwart the hired assassins contracted to kill their leaders.

The "hit list", according to the Missionary Council for Indian Peoples, an organ of the Catholic Church, already runs to more than 220 names. Among them is Moacir Grechi, the Bishop of Rio Branco, the capital of Acre.

The mounting domestic and world concern about the Amazon prompted by these events has led President José Sarney to launch a counter-offensive in response to what he sees as the "internationalisation" of a national issue.

Speaking in Brasilia in mid-April, he declared: "The Amazon is ours". He rejected the interference of "great powers or international organisations" that would "dictate to us how to defend what is ours to defend."

### Imperialism

Many in Brazil agree with Sarney. They view international interest in the Amazon as an "imperialist" attempt to cash in on its abundant resources.

This harks back to the stand of the Brazilian left of the 1960s after the controversial U.S. futurologist, Hermann Kahn, and his Hudson Institute put forward the idea of creating an enormous



Undated file photo of Brazilian ecologist Francisco Mendes, his two children and wife.

Amazon lake in order to facilitate foreign access to the mineral riches of the jungle.

Today, it has become the rallying cry for President Sarney's plan for the Amazon rainforest: "Nossa Natureza" — Our Nature.

It is headed by General Bayma Denis, the government's principal military advisor and head of the National Security Council.

However, to some critics, the armed forces as defenders of the environment seems to contradict their leading role in the 1960s in opening roads into the jungle — such as the now-abandoned Trans-Amazonian.

The armed forces were also responsible for the implementation of the "Calha Norte" (North Calha) project, an ambitious plan for military colonisation and occupation of the jungle along Brazil's frontiers with Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. This project, whose cost has been estimated at \$1 billion, was condemned by the church, Indian protection organisations and environmental groups.

In announcing Our Nature, the government said that the area of the Amazon which had been deforested was 5 per cent (about 252,000 square kilometres) of the total area of 3.7 million square kilometres.

But this calculation is contested by Brazilian scientists, who denounce what they see as the manipulation of numbers. The World Bank continues to speak of deforestation of 12 per cent.

The Our Nature programme says it aims to create six forest and biological reserves, restrict the use by gold miners of mercury (which has severely polluted groundwater in some areas), reduce logging of trees and revise the laws concerning Indian reservations.

Again many critics challenge both the Brazilian government's

ability to fund these new programmes and to enforce new conservation rules. Especially as President Sarney has also expressed reluctance over proposed "debt for nature swaps" whereby Brazil could exchange pledges to preserve tracts of forest for some of its \$15 billion foreign debt.

The government's so-called "green package" marks the beginning of a political reaction aimed at neutralising non-governmental organisations which, since last year, have been in the vanguard of the conservation struggle in Brazil.

Using nationalism and supported by the armed forces, the government seems to be trying to reassert control of the environmental debate in the country, and to weaken the solidarity which has grown informally between Brazilian, European and North American NGOs since the assassination of Francisco Mendes.

However, the Brazilian ecologist, Jose Lutzenburg, who won the Right Livelihood Society award last year, says that the government's green counter-offensive cannot be seen as any more than a political manoeuvre until the assassins of Chico Mendes are brought to justice. *Panos*

تحت رعاية معالي وزير السياحة  
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حشد كبير من الفنانين والفنانات البلغاريين  
يقدمون لكم على مدى عشرة أيام أحلى الرقصات البلغارية الشعبية.  
وأحدث الاستعراضات الليلية الرائعة في أجواء بلغارية أخذة

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## Focus on People Priorities for our future

By Mariam M. Shahia

This week Dr. Najwa Khuri-Bulos, a Jordanian pediatrician, talks to Focus on People about ways to ensure "quality control" over medical treatment.

Born in Jerusalem and raised in Nabulus and Ramallah, where she graduated from the Friends School for Girls, Khuri-Bulos attended the American University in Beirut (AUB), with the intention of becoming an M.D. After receiving her B.Sc. and M.Sc. with distinction from the AUB, she went on to receive her doctorate, specialising in pediatrics, from Yale University. She also specialised in the field of infectious diseases at the University of Colorado, where she sat for the U.S. Medical Board Examination.

Determined from the very beginning on public service, Khuri-Bulos joined the staff of the pediatrics department at the University of Jordan Hospital in 1976. Between 1983-1984 she became chairperson of the department of pediatrics. She also holds a teaching post as associate professor at the university.

Facing no particular difficulties in reaching such a position, Khuri-Bulos feels that, "although a woman may not always have the same opportunities as a man to obtain a particular position, once she gets there she is unlikely to face discrimination because of her gender."

On her service with Jordan's Medical Board Examinations, Khuri-Bulos explains: "We had to introduce Jordan's board exams, not to 'fail' anyone, but rather to ensure a certain quality of medical attention, to safeguard the patients."

Asked about the rapid advancement in the medical field and how countries like Jordan are coping, she notes: "When I first came back to Jordan in 1976 we only had one medical conference a year, now we have at least once a month, so that is already a tremendous improvement." Since the conferences are always well attended, chances are that they will increase according to demand.

Asked about malpractice suits in Jordan Khuri-Bulos laments: "In the United States malpractice suits have become completely out of hand. Doctors feel misused and the malpractice suits are often attacked which makes many stop wanting to practice medicine at all. This precedent in the U.S. should not be followed by Jordan. People must understand that doctors are people and not magicians. Not everything is in our hands. There must be protection for both patients and physicians."

Jordan's Medical Association is responsible for deliberating and dealing with malpractice cases. According to Khuri-Bulos, "medical competents is beyond physicians. Equipments, laboratories, X-ray machines, information facilities are all major factors in the quality of the practice."

Although Jordan's hospitals still have some way to go before they reach their counterparts in (particularly) the Western world, they have made tremendous improvements over the last fifteen years. "Fifteen years ago we were working with the most rudimentary tools of technology, we have come a long way. We should not expect to be like the United States, but we should be working towards that, and we are."

One of the areas Khuri-Bulos believes changes could be made at a faster pace in the field of team work or the multi-disciplinary approach. "It is absolutely necessary that we have our patients examined by a group of doctors with different specialties if we are to improve the quality of medical services in Jordan."

One of Jordan's landmarks in medicine that Khuri-Bulos proudly points to is an almost 100 per cent success in the country's drive to prevent diseases through immunisation. In 1978 only 20-30 per cent of Jordanian children benefited from immunisation, while today almost 95 per cent of them do.

Khuri-Bulos believes that working at the University Hospital has benefited her a great deal. In a "teaching environment, physicians are forced to look at things more critically. Student's questions propel the professors to do research and self analysis. One must not forget that the first class of M.D.s graduated from the University of Jordan in 1978."

Asked about cooperation and collaboration among medical staff in public hospitals Khuri-Bulos feels that there is a sufficient degree of both. "Between Al Bashir, King Hussein Medical Centre and the University of Jordan's Hospital there is both cooperation and collaboration and this will be strengthened by the newly founded National Health Institute, which will act as a catalyst."

Hospitals in Jordan have been awarded top priority on the national level in the last few years. Now we have well built hospitals and well-trained and educated staff, the only area we still need more locally trained people is in the para-medical field. Our eyes have been opened to critical thought and they cannot be closed. Research, even if on a relatively small scale has become increasingly important to Jordanian physicians."

While Khuri-Bulos attends several medical conferences abroad each year she is well aware that most of her colleagues who work in hospitals or in private practices are not able to do so. "Thus we have to bring lecturers to Jordan; we have to hold more workshops and seminars right here."

Asked about the immediate problems she faces in dealing with parents of young patients she carefully notes that, "a child's health depends on its psychological as well as physical well-being. I'm not sure parents are always aware of a child's needs, there seems to be an underestimation of the capacity of every young child to learn. I'm not sure that women in Jordan have reached their potential or have got anywhere close to that. The child, of course, learns from his mother first; therefore, the child's potentials are also far from being realised."

Khuri-Bulos is encouraged by the often natural attitudes women in Jordan have towards self help. "Not everyone can afford ready made baby foods, many of my patients make their own baby food at home from fresh ingredients and the children are very healthy."

Asked about reappportioning funds and setting new priorities for Jordan's medical institutions, Khuri-Bulos says: "Although the big medical institutions in Jordan have done a good job in providing primary health care, they must now go onwards and push for research, intensive care units for children, (which do not yet exist, but is soon to be opened at the University Hospital), and other, new priorities."

# Moroccans make world's tallest minaret even higher

By Jonathan Clayton  
Reuter

CASABLANCA — Moroccan workmen building the Grand Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca have begun the tricky task of making the world's tallest minaret 28 metres higher.

The minaret stands on top of the unfinished mosque, dominating the skyline in Morocco's biggest and busiest city and visible from 50 kilometres away.

After King Hassan II visited the site in December, it was decided to raise the minaret from 172 metres to 200 metres.

"His Majesty felt it was not quite high enough. That it was not in proportion with the rest of the mosque. He suggested a few other improvements, too," said a City Hall representative.

On top of the minaret a laser beam will pierce the night sky, pointing in the direction of Mecca.

Workmen have begun breaking the dome on top of the minaret to allow it to be built higher.

The work could take months, but the original plan of completing the mosque for King Hassan's 60th birthday on July 9 was abandoned long ago.

"That is a dream that is now impossible to achieve," the representative said. Intricate carvings and hand-tilings by Moroccan

masons and master craftsmen inside the mosque could take 18 months to complete.

About 4,000 workers toil round the clock — even during the current month of Ramadan — to finish the building as soon as possible.

The mosque will be the largest in the world outside Islam's holy places in Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia.

Designed by French architect Michel Pinseau, a personal friend of the king, the mosque will be 200 metres long, 100 metres wide, and 60 metres high.

It will accommodate 100,000 worshippers, 20,000 inside and 80,000 in a huge courtyard outside. There will be a separate prayer hall for women, a religious school, a museum and a library.

The mosque faces directly toward the sea and dykes have been built to hold back the sea while the building is completed. They will then be removed and the building will appear to float on water.

Breakers have been built to ensure waves do not rock the building.

The mosque is the most ambitious non-military construction project ever undertaken in the country. It is also one of the most expensive.

Estimates of its cost range as

high as \$360 million — one tenth of the government's entire budget for 1989 and ten times capital expenditure in the health sector this year.

Much of the money was raised by a controversial public donation campaign. At its peak last summer, the country was awash with rumours of officials badgering people into paying more than they wished.

The ministry of interior denied the allegations, saying investigations found no such cases.

King Hassan personally contributed \$800,000 to the fund.

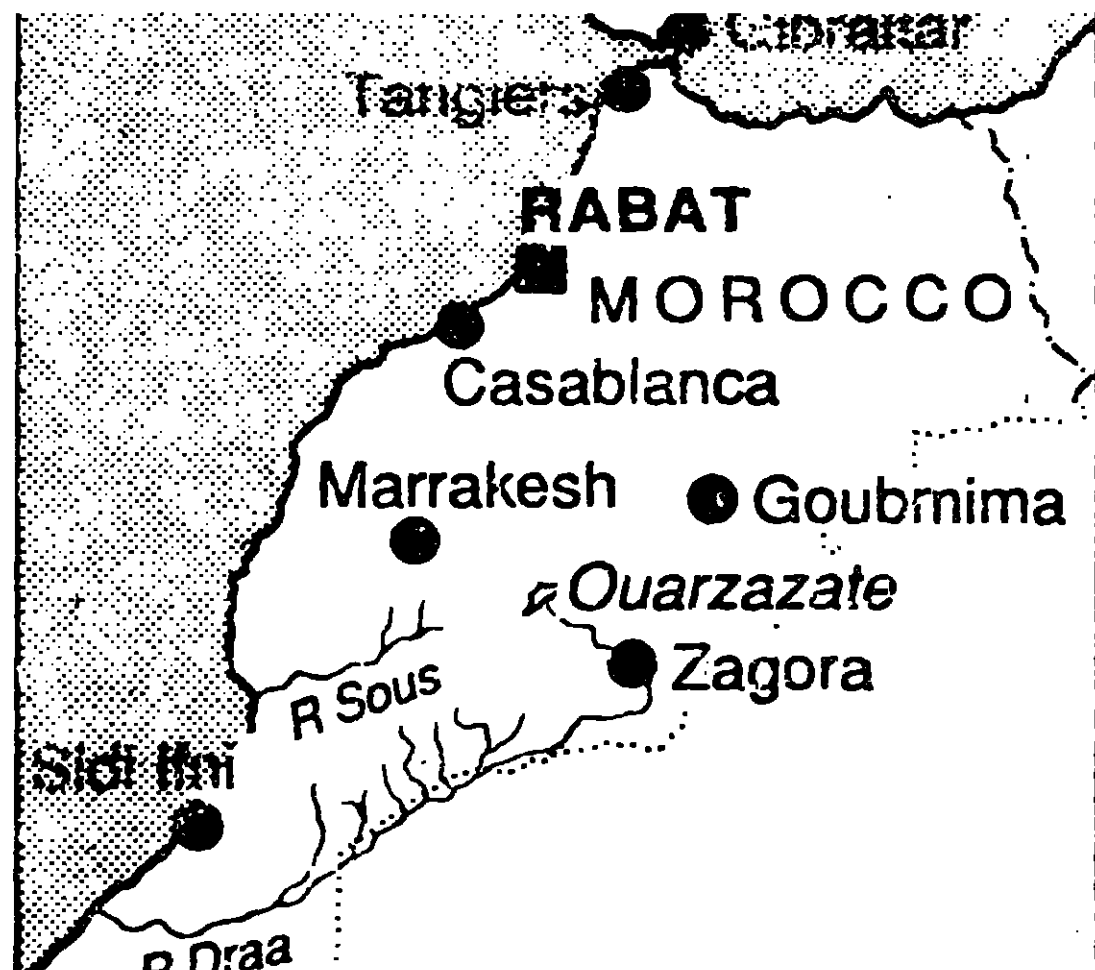
"Your contributions, even of a dirham (about 12 cents), will mean that you have built a mosque," he said.

Gifts from Saudi Arabia, other Gulf nations and from private individuals are also helping to pay. Former French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua donated \$3,200 during a recent holiday in Morocco.

Other visiting politicians have done likewise.

Casablanca already has about 300 mosques, but city officials say the Hassan II mosque will become the focal point of the country's commercial capital.

Nearby slums are being demolished and the city's main avenue extended up to the entrance of the mosque.



## Information anxiety

By Judie Glave  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — If the stock market has you baffled, if the Richter scale has you dizzy, if you're likely to lie about having read that 550-page report still sitting on your desk, you've got information anxiety.

Richard Saul Wurman, the fast-talking author of a new American book on the subject, believes thousands, perhaps millions, of people suffer from the condition.

"It's saying, 'I just can't keep up.' It's that feeling of pressure. You know it, I know it. Admit it, everyone does," he says.

"It's that feeling that Jerry Smith down the street can put together the bicycle and you don't know how they can program their VCR (Videocassette Recorder) to record things 14 days ahead of time and you can't... that he's read the big, fat report sitting in your box and you can't because it just

doesn't make any sense, so you have to lie and say, 'oh yeah, that was a pretty good report.'"

That, says Wurman, is what society's latest high-tech malady has done — turned humans into masses of lying, quivering jelly brains, too afraid to admit they don't know or don't understand.

Wurman argues that information anxiety is a result of the societal demand that everyone become well-rounded culturally, coupled with the fact that much of the information being dispersed does not really inform.

"It's just stuff, or data, and I refer to it as the non-information explosion," he said.

Wurman blames the education system. He says schools teach that "it's better to say, 'I know' than 'I don't know.' It's better to answer a question than ask a question. ... a longer report is a better report."

His new book is aimed at calming anxiety sufferers by providing



such common-sense ideas as: Allow periodicals to stack up before ripping out individual articles of interest, thereby reducing a preponderant pile to small stacks of what Wurman calls "interest shards." The idea: if there's less to look at, there's less anxiety.

— Make a list of terms you use

or hear often, but don't really understand (computer lingo, market futures, the Richter scale) and make a point to learn what they mean, one at a time.

— Never nod your head at something you don't understand. Practice saying, "I don't understand," in front of a mirror. The sooner you admit you don't

know, the sooner you can actually learn.

Wurman admits his book is full of a lot of things that people always knew, but having them published "gives it the kind of justification to say it out loud for the first time."

Wurman is an architect by training but is better known as an architect of information.

"I realise how ignorant I am. I'm more knowledgeable about my ignorance than perhaps anybody I know. When I don't understand things, I often do a book about them," says the 53-year-old writer, who has turned his thirst for knowledge into a thriving business.

The result has been 26 "access" books that include guides to the 1984 Olympics, medical terms and his latest, a guide to the Wall Street Journal, which walks readers through a jungle of financial jargon.

Though pessimistic about ending information anxiety, Wurman believes that within a de-

cade, the nation's data dilemma will spawn a new, multibillion-dollar industry: the understanding business.

"Newspapers will begin hiring people not just to style their newspapers but to make them understandable," he said. "Some bold news programme on television will do that, and we'll eventually have a weather map that you can understand."

"And business reports won't talk about M1s, M2s and M3s (varying methods to measure the U.S. money supply), which everybody thinks are bus lines. It will be information that people can use."

Because he understands this, he's gotten a jump on the competition and created a new business, venture, the understanding business.

Now that's using common sense, which is what Wurman says in his books, his business and his life are all about.

"I already told you," he says smiling, "I'm not that smart."

## Elementary school 'most important of all' in South Korea

By Kelly Tunney  
The Associated Press

SEOUL — On a school day, 2,100 pairs of shoes are lined in neat rows outside classroom at Wonchon elementary. At day's end, the shoes are filled again and 2,100 book bags are crammed with homework assignments.

Removing one's shoes before entering school is as much a part of South Korea's culture as daily assigned homework is part of its education.

"Elementary school is the most important school of all," said Kim Yong-Soo, the principal. "It comes first, and habits must be trained in children from the be-

ginning." Wonchon is an average-sized city school in an affluent area of high-rise apartments in Seoul. It is an example of why South Korean students score among the highest in international surveys of academic achievement.

Slides, a pink-and-yellow jungle gym and wooden benches line the field where hundreds of children kick soccer balls and play games during the daily 40-minute recess period allotted for lunch brought from home. The school also has 20 minutes of exercises led by a teacher each morning, usually outside.

By American standards, Wonchon is crowded. Its 40 clas-

rooms average 53 students each, slightly below the national average of 56.

Youngsters wear coats over the jeans, corduroy pants and brightly coloured sweaters and scarves to keep warm in classrooms decorated with handmade yarn animals and clay pots. In summer, the same rooms can be sweltering.

At Wonchon, like most schools, the drinking water has to be boiled because of impurities. Some other schools in Seoul have outside toilets.

Kim said the strength of a Wonchon education lies in parents' support, homework, standard textbooks, the long school year (220 days — five full days a

week, half a day Saturday) and the teacher's unchallenged authority to assign work and demand the best performance no matter how much of a student's time it consumes.

Learning in the first grade emphasises sitting still, focusing on the teacher and listening. Kim said concentration can be taught.

The school day starts at 8:40 a.m., although students are inside 15 to 30 minutes in advance. Classes run to about 12:30 p.m. for first-graders and 2:30 for sixth-graders, although special projects can keep them there longer.

A constant at Wonchon and other schools is daily homework,

also assigned for weekends and vacations. Parents are expected to help. It starts at about a half-hour per subject in first grade and increases to up to two hours or more per subject for fifth- and sixth-graders.

Wonchon has a vocational training room with cooking and carpentry tools, a television studio to beam educational programmes to classrooms and a science lab.

Kim said students are "not allowed" to fail or repeat a grade. Children needing extra help are placed in one of two special classrooms for a few days to a few months until they catch up and return to their regular class. Six-

teen children received help in a recent four-month period.

Teachers aim at the average students, he said, encouraging the more gifted to leap ahead to another grade.

Wonchon was part of a two-year experiment to teach grade-school science with more experiments and questions instead of the rote memorising on which most Korean instruction is based.

Kim, also a former science teacher, said the approach was better for teachers and more interesting for students. He said Korean education needs improvement and he hopes the "inquiring science approach" will be used in all schools.





## Iraq seeks technology transfer for emergency arms industry

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq is driving to build up a sophisticated arms industry to rival those in industrialised nations and is seeking significant technology transfers from East and West, officials said Tuesday.

The officials spoke at the end of a major five-day military exhibition in Baghdad that showcased weapons and equipment already being produced by Iraq's emerging arms industry.

"Time is our only hindrance to overcoming difficulties and joining the ranks of advanced countries," the minister of industry and military industrialisation, Hussein Kamel, told a news conference at the end of the exhibition.

However, Iraq's war debt of an estimated \$60-\$70 billion and a lack of advanced military technological base are also seen by military analysts as major obstacles.

They said that, like Iran which is also striving to develop its own arms industry, Iraq was likely to use oil barter deals to help pay for the technology it seeks.

Iraq, which spent an estimated \$50 billion on defence during the eight-year war with Iran, is aiming at self-sufficiency in most military sectors and has hopes of eventually becoming an arms exporter.

But officials and analysts, noting that peace talks with Iran have deadlocked with little sign of a breakthrough, said Baghdad was concerned that war with Iran could erupt again and that Iraq could be involved in another Arab-Israeli war in the future.

Superpower détente could also hamper Iraq's acquisition of advanced weapons in the future. The state-run Military Industrialisation Organisation exhibited Soviet T-72 tanks made under licence along with howitzers, mortars, long- and medium-range missiles, artillery guns, torpedos, military boats, various

calibres of ammunition and the whole spectrum of light infantry weapons.

Experts are sceptical that the Iraqi missiles and other sophisticated weaponry was produced by Iraq alone. The missiles were believed to be based on Soviet-designed weapons.

Nonetheless, the wide range of Iraqi weapons displayed at the exhibition, in which some 150 companies from 28 countries took part, underlined the advances made in arms production in the last few years.

Before the Gulf war erupted in September 1980, Iraq had virtually no domestic arms manufacturing capability at all. During the war, it depended on foreign arms suppliers, particularly the Soviet Union and France.

Amid a major upgrading of Iraq's armed forces following the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war, the military industrial sector is considered one of the largest and fastest growing in the country. The transformation has meant the creation of a host of new

enterprises and sectors in Iraq's defence industrial base.

Officials declined to specify government allocations for military industrial sector. But Arab and Western analysts estimate that as much as \$20 billion will be spent on it over the next few years.

One of Iraq's top priorities is to develop an aerospace industry. Arab sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there are believed to be plans to establish an aircraft plant involving high technology in the northern city of Mosul.

Officials said Iraq was considering building a shipyard on its Gulf coast, but they did not say what kind of vessels would be built or whether foreign aid was involved.

Officials during the exhibition that they are negotiating with the French Dassault Company to build the supersonic Mirage-2000 jet fighter under licence.

They said they have approached the Soviet Union for similar deal involving the MiG-29 fighter, NATO codename Fulcrum.

## Iran offers fighter repairs

ANKARA (Agencies) — Iran, whose air force relies on U.S.-designed planes, is looking for contracts to repair fighters for other countries, an Iranian defence source said Tuesday.

"We can provide spares and repair given the right proposals. We can handle F-4s, F-5s and other U.S.-designed aircraft," he said in an international arms fair which opened Tuesday.

He would give no other details and did not say whether any country had approached Iran for jet repairs.

Iran was among nearly 30 countries, including Britain, China, Oman, Romania, Pakistan, South Africa and the United States, represented at the five-day international defence equipment and avionics exhibition in Ankara.

Tehran displayed its domesti-

cally-made Shahin (Hawk) and Oghab (Eagle) ground-to-ground missiles, used in its eight-year war with Iraq, aircraft components and remotely piloted reconnaissance planes.

The Iranian sources said that the two reconnaissance drones on show, each some 12 feet (four metres) long, had an operating range of 240 kilometres but gave no flying duration.

Iran also exhibited artillery shells, small calibre ammunition and radio equipment.

Iran's air force was equipped mainly with U.S.-designed aircraft and helicopters before the 1979 Islamic revolution overthrew the shah.

During the Gulf war, Iran gained experience in servicing its jets and producing spare parts, sometimes by cannibalising other aircraft, after access to U.S. sup-

pliers was cut.

Meanwhile, Iran will invest \$1.8 billion in its petrochemical industry over the next five years in order to cut imports and become a net exporter of petrochemical products, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Tuesday.

Ahmad Rahgozar, head of the state-run National Petrochemical Co., said in an interview with the oil ministry monthly, Petroleum Newsletter that "Iran's strategic goal is to export products other than oil."

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Rahgozar as saying in the interview that Iran was keen to export petrochemical products because they multiply the value of a barrel of crude oil tenfold.

The Soviets provided Iraq's powerful air force with an undetermined number of MiG-29s last year and Kamel disclosed that Baghdad is negotiating to buy 30 MiG-2000s from France.

While Dassault is said to be considering a package involving technology transfer and upgrading Iraq's Mirage F1 fighters, widely used in attacks on Iranian tankers in the Gulf during the war, Soviet officials declined all comment.

The Soviets took a surprisingly low profile during the exhibition, apparently to avoid jeopardising Moscow's warming relations with Iran.

Officials were reluctant to say which countries and companies were helping Iraq develop its military industries.

But informed sources said that apart from the Soviet Union and France, Brazil, China, Argentina and other countries have also helped.

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

### Third World inflation soars to 58%

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prices paid by consumers in Third World countries jumped an average 58.3 per cent last year, up from 35.7 per cent in 1987, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported. The average rise in the United States and a score of other industrial countries was only 3.3 per cent, a rise from 2.9 per cent. Inflation figures for the Third World were heavily influenced by Latin America — Brazil's 682 per cent, Argentina's 343 per cent and Mexico's 114 per cent. Mexico reported a slow-down from last year's 132 per cent but Brazil and Argentina were moving up. Argentina's annual rate was over 387 per cent in December, and Brazil's 1,170 per cent in January. Nicaragua surpassed them all with 10,205 per cent for 1988 and an annual rate of just under 24,000 per cent in December but the country is too small to count for much in the overall average. There was also a rise of inflation in Asia, to 11.6 per cent from 7.3 per cent. China's rate was up beyond 20 per cent. Returns from Africa and the Middle East were too fragmentary for an overall figure.

### Strike shuts main Moroccan refinery

RABAT (R) — Production at Morocco's largest oil refinery has been halted because of a strike by more than 1,000 workers, the Democratic Labour Confederation (CDT) union said Wednesday. A CDT spokesman told Reuters the oil refining, gas and lubricants divisions were halted three days ago by the stoppage at the 3.5-million-tonne-a-year refinery. The strike began April 19 and has been extended for 48 hours at a time in support of demands for higher pay, improved working conditions and other benefits. The latest 48-hour extension began at noon Tuesday. The CDT said white collar employees were at work but maintenance staff were on strike and there had been equipment breakdowns.

### U.S. loan helps Algeria buy Boeings

WASHINGTON (AP) — An easy U.S. government loan and loan guarantee of \$215 million is helping Algeria buy three Boeing 767-300 passenger jets, the U.S. Export-Import (Exim) Bank announced Tuesday. Algeria will have 12 years to repay the loan of \$158 million at 8.95 per cent interest. A loan of \$56.9 million was arranged by Citibank of New York, with Exim's guarantee. The Algerian government, which owns the airline Air Algérie, will pay \$37.8 million in cash. Boeing has been a frequent beneficiary of loans from the Exim. It has helped the sale of 23 Boeings to Algeria alone, the last of which were four Boeing 727s in 1979. Eximbank encourages the sale of U.S. goods to other countries by arranging favourable financing, in competition with credit agencies of other industrial countries. It has helped \$200 billion worth of U.S. sales since it was founded in 1984.

### Cray reports big drop in earnings

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Cray Research Inc., which holds a mammoth share of the world's supercomputer market, has reported a nearly \$25 million first-quarter loss and said second-quarter earnings also could be down. The company reported first-quarter net earnings of \$1.5 million, or 5 cents a share, down from first-quarter earnings of \$26.39 million, or 85 cents a share for the same period in 1988. First-quarter revenue was \$116.1 million, compared with \$145.8 million for the 1988 quarter.

## Saudi monarch predicts \$26 oil price in 1990

KUWAIT (Agencies) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia said oil prices could rise to \$26 a barrel at the beginning of 1990 if OPEC member states adhered to prescribed production quotas, according to an interview published Wednesday.

Fahd was quoted as saying, "if OPEC countries stick to the production ceiling, I think oil prices will improve and may rise to \$26 a barrel."

"Prices of some crudes reached \$23 recently. When I say oil prices will reach \$26, I predict this will happen at the beginning of the new year. However, this depends on the adherence to the output ceiling," Fahd said.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries restricted output for its 13 member states to an 18.5 million barrel per day aggregate production ceiling as of Jan. 1. Prices for the first time in three years exceeded the \$18 per barrel level the group had been seeking.

OPEC's ministerial session, scheduled for early June in Vienna is widely expected to consider raising the production ceiling by 1-1.5 million barrels per day to accommodate demands for higher individual quotas by some members.

Fahd, whose country is the predominant OPEC nation, last week was quoted as saying production ceiling increases were possible after careful study of the market. In this interview he did not address the possibility but indicated he sought adherence to whichever production ceiling OPEC agreed upon.

Fahd attributed the price im-



King Fahd

provement to the squeeze of production and the cohesion of OPEC ranks. "As a result of output limitation, prices improved and reached a good level," he said.

Occasional retreats were due to market speculation and the prices bounce back at the end of the week, he said.

"OPEC should remain a cohesive organisation because the more it maintains its cohesion, the higher prices become," he said. "The production ceiling option remains better than the price war." He was referring to OPEC member states undercutting of prices that prevailed before the Jan. 1 accord went into effect. The Saudi monarch denied that Saudi Arabia was violating its output quota and indicated other OPEC members were sticking to their quotas.

The Saudi monarch said he was satisfied with the cooperation from non-OPEC producers, mentioning among these the Soviet Union which he said reduced its production level by five per cent.

Wheat subsidies to remain. Al Seyassah also quoted King Fahd saying that his country would keep paying large subsidies to its wheat farmers.

"The government will not stop its agricultural support, especially for wheat agriculture," the Kuwaiti newspaper quoted King Fahd as saying.

"There is a big sector of citizens who practise agriculture and we want them to continue so we can develop it further," he said.

## Oil prices fall

LONDON (R) — Oil prices are in retreat because of prospects of rising OPEC and North Sea supply. The current June contract has dropped below \$20. It fell 86 cents to \$19.80 while North Sea Brent blend crude futures Wednesday were at the lowest in seven weeks around \$17.75. One reason, traders said, is that they expect the return to the market some time this month of 472,000 barrels per day (b/d) of gasoline-rich British oil that was halted by a gas explosion on April 18 on a North Sea pumping platform.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, May 3, 1989 Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell	French franc	Japanese yen (for 100)	84.1 85.0
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	Dutch guilder	257.0	254.5
Pound Sterling	903.6	913.1	Swedish crown	83.8	84.6
Deutschemark	284.4	287.1	Italian lira (for 100)	36.9	39.2
Swiss franc	318.9	322.7	Belgian franc (for 10)	135.9	137.1

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

	1.6832/42	U.S. dollar
One Sterling	1.1810/20	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.8902/12	Deutschemark
	2.1320/30	Dutch guilder
	1.6830/40	Swiss francs
	39.56/59	Belgian francs
	6.3830/80	French francs
	1382/1383	Italian lire
	134.20/27	Japanese yen
	6.4140/90	Swedish crowns
	6.8560/610	Norwegian crowns
	7.3550/600	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	376.50/376.90	U.S. dollars

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY — A wave of enthusiasm for industrial stocks led the market to a stronger close. The All Ordinaries index was 12.3 points higher at 1,504.9.

TOKYO — Japanese markets are closed until Monday, May 8. HONG KONG — Prices closed virtually unchanged after a seessaw trading day with attention focused on political developments in China. The Hang Seng index dropped 1.15 points to 3,155.22.

SINGAPORE — Institutional and small investor buying sent prices up in brisk trading and the Straits Times industrial index closed 18.92 points up at a post-crash high of 1,284.87.

BOMBAY — Scattered buying by state-owned financial institutions helped shares close mixed in moderate trading. The market closed lower following Tuesday's steep fall as the possibility of early elections sparked renewed long liquidation.

FRANKFURT — Shares ended mostly firmer after a moderate session, led higher by scattered technical demand for specialty stocks. The DAX index rose 6.06 points to 1,368.60.

ZURICH — Prices closed easier across the board in listless trading ahead of Thursday's Ascension Day holiday. Technical problems made the all-share Swiss index unavailable.

PARIS — French share prices extended losses in very quiet trading after the finance minister's forecast for April inflation — about 0.6 per cent after March's 0.3 per cent — depressed sentiment.

LONDON — Shares languished near the day's lows in dull afternoon business as a weaker Wall Street added to general lack of conviction in the market. At 1440 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 6.8 points at 2696.3.

NEW YORK — The broad market remained narrowly lower and directionless although special situations stood out in interim trading. The Dow fell 4 points to 2,398.

## WORLD RESOURCES

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AUTUMN TERM 1989  
The ICS will open an English-language Kindergarten Class beginning next September Term for children aged 3-4 years. Children of all nationalities are welcome and the children do not need to know any English before they start.

The children will attend School from 7.45 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

A bus service will be available in most cases. The fee will be JD 150 per term (3 terms per year). There is a registration fee of JD 50 set against the first term's fees.

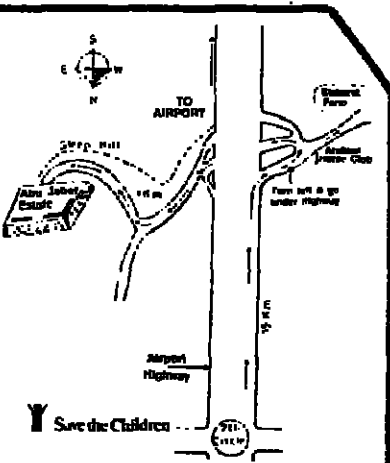
For further information please telephone the School Secretary on 841678.

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Will be held at Abu-Jaber Estate

On Friday & Saturday 12 & 13 May 1989  
Between 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.





WINNERS CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW THEY PLAYED SO WELL, AND LOSERS CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW THEY PLAYED SO BADLY.

XOS





A victim of the tornado that hit Bangladesh last week feeds his injured child in front of his wrecked home.

## Bangladeshis face diarrhoea outbreak

DHAKA (AP) — Parts of central Bangladesh that were devastated by a tornado last week now are threatened by an outbreak of diarrhoea, officials and relief workers said Tuesday.

Rescue workers speaking on condition of anonymity said 50 people were treated for diarrhoea Tuesday. Earlier 100 people, mostly children, reported attacks of diarrhoea, apparently spread by contaminated drinking water, they said.

Decomposing carcasses have polluted pools and ponds and an outbreak of diarrhoea and cholera was likely, said Mohammad Nasim, a voluntary relief worker.

The health ministry said it had taken emergency steps to prevent an epidemic.

A ministry announcement said 10 medical teams carrying water purifying tablets and medicines

have been sent to the villages in Manikganj district that were hit by the tornado Wednesday.

Officials at the tornado control room in Manikganj said the death toll in the storm reached 614 Tuesday after rescuers found five more bodies and eight people died in hospitals.

Residents at Manikganj, 40 kilometres northwest of Dhaka, however said more than 1,000 people died in the calamity, as 400 persons listed missing were believed killed.

At least 12,000 people were injured and 13,000 left homeless after the tornado, whirling at 160 kilometres per hour, tore through at least 20 villages.

Many of the survivors are still living in the open without adequate food, medicine and drinking water, rescue officials said.

Most villagers in Bangladesh depend for drinking water on

rivers and ponds, unreliable sources in country where the climate alternates between flood and drought.

Summer floods last year left four-fifths of the country under water and killed at least 1,400 people. In November, cyclones claimed another 1,100 lives.

The country is currently experiencing a two-month-old drought that threatens to destroy half the 5.6 million-ton spring crop in the field. Agriculture Ministry officials said.

Bangladesh's agriculture, almost entirely dependent on rain, is the main occupation of the nation's 110 million people.

Last week's tornado was accompanied by rainfall, but Agriculture Ministry officials said more rain was needed to save the crop, mostly rice.

Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries, has an annual per capita income of \$160.

## Peking appeals for stability as students vote to march

PEKING (R) — Chinese Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang appealed for stability Wednesday as defiant students voted to stage another mass demonstration for democratic reforms.

Their protest, planned for Thursday, would coincide with the opening of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) annual meeting in Peking to be attended by more than 2,000 dignitaries.

City authorities announced that central Tiananmen Square would be closed to pedestrians for 11 hours while bankers and finance ministers met in the Great Hall of the People.

Chinese president Yang Shangkun will address the opening ceremony, which coincides with the 70th anniversary of the May 4 protest when intellectuals and students took to the streets of Peking to demand modernisation and democracy.

Tens of thousands of students

joined by supportive onlookers brought the capital to a standstill last Thursday in China's biggest protest since the 1949 revolution.

Making his first public speech since the unrest began nearly three weeks ago, Zhao told a party youth meeting that China could not afford chaos.

"If you lose stability, nothing will be achieved... a very hopeful China with a bright future would become a hopeless, chaotic China," Zhao said.

"The whole party, all people and youth should be struggling against chaos to preserve our hard-earned peace and stability," Zhao said in a speech broadcast on radio and television.

"Haven't we had enough of

social turmoil?" Zhao asked rhetorically, noting that since 1840 China had enjoyed only about 20 years of stability.

He stressed that the Communist Party with its 45 million members was crucial to the success of China's open-door policy and shared the ideals of China's youth.

But as he spoke, student leaders meeting at a Peking University campus voted to stage a fresh protest after the government refused to hold talks with their independent union which it regards as illegal.

"Tomorrow is a people's holiday, a new period in the history of Chinese people's democracy," Wueraikui, chairman of the new union, told 500 cheering students after the vote.

The student leaders declined to reveal where or what time the demonstration would take place.

Diplomats doubted they would confront police during the ADB meeting, the largest international financial gathering in Peking since the communists came to power in 1949.

Government spokesman Yuan Mu used the first official news conference since the campus protests began to appeal to students to return to classes.

"I hope that tomorrow there will be no mass demonstration but maybe my hopes will not come true," Yuan said. He urged the students not to disrupt the ADB meeting.

On Tuesday, between 6,000 and 10,000 students demonstrated in Shanghai, China's biggest city, and residents said they expected more protests Thursday.

"My students are beginning to breathe fire," said one foreign teacher.

## Six troopers killed in Pusan university violence

SEOUL (AP) — Six riot troopers were killed and 10 critically injured when they were set on fire by radical students Wednesday while trying to rescue five police officers being held hostage at a college, police said.

Police officials, who declined to be named, said the troopers were killed in a dawn raid on Donggi University in the southern port of Pusan as they attempted to break into a room on the seventh floor of the school library to free the hostages.

All of the hostages later were released unharmed after professors pleaded with students to free the officers, police said. Police said they arrested 88 students and were questioning them.

President Roh Tae-Woo and top ministers condemned the incident at an emergency meeting and warned they would crack down on radical students and dissidents to halt a wave of violent protests that have hit South Korea in recent weeks.

"Radical student demonstra-

tions have reached the stage of armed struggle in which murder and arson are committed to achieve their goal of revolution," the government said in a statement.

Roh was scheduled to go on national television Wednesday night to announce new measures to try to halt violent protests.

Opposition parties also denounced the deaths Wednesday and called for an end to political violence.

Hundreds of radical students calling for the overthrow of Roh battled riot police around at least two campuses Wednesday in Seoul. Protesters cheered at Sungkyunkwan University when several troopers were set ablaze by firebombs.

## Sihanouk sets conditions to return to Cambodia

JAKARTA (AP) — If the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia is independently confirmed and the constitution rewritten to his satisfaction, Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Wednesday he would go back to his homeland as head of state.

Sihanouk said he expected to decide by October or November whether to return to hold power somewhere between that wielded by the queen of England and the president of France.

"I would like to be between the two. Buddhism tells us the middle way is best," he told a news conference on the second day of Cambodian peace talks here.

But first an international control commission, to be named at a conference in Paris July 24-25, must make sure the Vietnamese

withdrawal is genuine, Sihanouk said. Hanoi has promised to pull out its remaining troops by the end of September.

His other demands include a four-party interim government in Phnom Penh until elections can be held, and constitutional guarantees.

The proposed government of Premier Hun Sen, Sihanouk's non-communist followers, anti-communists from former Premier Son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation Front and the communist Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge is not represented at the peace talks. Sihanouk said no support could be expected from them for whatever was agreed upon in Jakarta and the interim government might function with only the other three groups.

"The Khmer Rouge will reject everything because they are interested in the continuation of the war," he said.

The Khmer Rouge are accused of killing hundreds of thousands between 1975, when they seized power, and late 1978, when Vietnam intervened. Hun Sen, Sihanouk and their allies insist that Pol Pot and other leaders of the original "genocidal clique" be barred from any future government.

"The Khmer Rouge have no chance. They continue to violate human rights. They attack other members of our coalition. I think they may be planning an attack on Hun Sen's army and my army," Sihanouk said.

He quoted Hun Sen as saying, "Let the Khmer Rouge stay in the jungle."

## North jury — not exactly of his peers — takes its time

WASHINGTON (R) — Behind locked doors and a blue velvet rope, a dozen average citizens of the nation's capital are taking their time in deciding the fate of Oliver North.

A cashier, two typists, two secretaries, a retired bus driver, a copier operator, an unemployed security guard and four others have been blockaded for 10 days in and around courtroom six, where they heard eight weeks of testimony about the fired White House aide prosecutors claim masterminded the Iran-contra plan.

They have been cut off from public contact since being sequestered April 21. They stay in a hotel, whose location has been kept secret. They are forbidden to see their families except in the presence of a court marshal.

For this panel, the prohibition against reading newspapers and watching television news broadcasts is probably no hardship — all denied familiarity with North and the Iran-contra affair before being sworn in — but even their television programmes are previewed and censored by marshals to avoid even a hint of tainting.

A two-part television drama of North, "Guts and Glory," was strictly off limits.

The jurors enter the courthouse by van and start the morning with juice and coffee across from the jury room. The few notes they have sent to the judge reflect a focus on routine, not surprising for a jury headed by a 34-year-old

hospital secretary.

"May we please have more yellow pads (12), and if possible some rubber bands," jury foreman Denise Anderson wrote April 24. "Thank you so much for your assistance with supplies. We will always take lunch at 12:00 noon for one hour from the time lunch is delivered."

Judge Gerhard Gesell, a no-nonsense jurist of 78 who does not suffer lawyers' foibles gladly, has gone out of his way to ensure the jurors' comfort, right down to the green leather chairs they sat on. When one juror complained of illness, a nurse was called. When one juror's aunt died, Gesell called a recess so she could attend the funeral.

Legally a jury of North's peers, the nine-woman, three-man panel is in practical terms quite different from the man whose fate they will decide.

The defendant is white, physically fit and cuts an imposingly martial figure even in his standard-issue dark suits.

The jurors are all black, reflecting Washington's predominantly black population. They have tended toward colds and coughs during the proceedings and no fashion magazine would feature any of them on its cover.

With one exception — a statistician — none of the jurors has any higher education, as contrasted with North, a graduate of the naval academy at Annapolis and the U.S. War College in Rhode Island.

Brook proudly quoted one of her more notable victories, the changing of the phrase: "as consideration must be given to the aspect of water economy," to: "as water must be saved."

A GFE questionnaire sent to all state governments asking

which federal laws were particularly awkward, time-consuming or labour-intensive to enforce received a reply from Lower Saxony listing over 60.

So far the group has been simplification of pension rules and building and heredity laws. The parliamentary commission is preparing its third set of measures to clear up problems in the legal system.

A linguistics expert from the German Language Society has been seconded to the Bonn parliament to simplify the language in which laws are drafted.

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A GFE questionnaire sent to all state governments asking

## Primates emphasise social justice, sideline women issue

LARNACA (AP) — A group of 27 Anglican primates have called for "social justice" to be applied in political conflicts and sidelined a controversy over women bishops which threatens to split the church's 70-million faithful worldwide.

A communique summarising a week of meetings by the archbishops in this tourist resort singled out the Palestinian uprising, Lebanon, South Africa and several other international issues as "urgent and immediate matters which cry out for compassion and action."

The Anglican primates called upon "all people and especially those in authority to make every effort to alleviate the sufferings of God's children in every land."

The emphasis on "social justice" came in a separate four-page statement entitled "Anglican primates statement on social justice issues," that made detailed references to matters considered "urgent and immediate."

The stress reflected public statements by Archbishop Desmond Tutu of southern Africa and other Third World prelates

that deflected attention from the divisive issue of women bishops.

The risk of a split in the church deepened following February's elevation of Barbara Harris, 58, as suffragan (assistant) bishop by the U.S. Episcopal Church, making her the first woman bishop in Christian history.

"We are concerned that we do not become obsessed with ecclesiastical tinkering while there are major crises in so many parts of the world to be taken into account," Tutu told a news conference Monday.

"Unity in diversity"

On the women bishops issue, the conference adopted a special report proposing that conflicting views of member churches should be accepted, and called this "unity in diversity."

The prelates were all agreed, however, in their demands for action to redress suffering caused by political issues.

"We are deeply conscious that we meet as primates of the Anglican communion on the divided island of Cyprus and at the centre of many deep-seated conflicts in

the Middle East," Archbishop Robert Runcie of Canterbury, the leading Anglican primate, said Wednesday.

On the 17-month Palestinian uprising the communique said the prelates join the Christian churches in Jerusalem "in denouncing Israel's handling of the Palestinian uprising in occupied Arab areas."

On Lebanon, where fierce fighting has raged for eight weeks, the communique said "we grieve with the people of Beirut in their hour of trial."

"Even in a nation in which violence has come to be an everyday occurrence, the recent fighting is particularly brutal and shocking."

The communique called "upon all the parties involved in the present fighting — particularly outside powers — to cease and desist, committing their energies to the search for a just and equitable peace."

The communique also called "on all states with influence to use their good offices to secure the release of all hostages of whatever nationality."

## Pressure group clashes with West German bureaucracy

By Thalia Griffiths  
Reuter

BONN — Former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt once said that life in West Germany was getting so complicated he could no longer understand his water bill.

This is no surprise in a country where the word for water company is "Trinkwasser-versorgungsunternehmen" (literally "drinking water supply enterprise").

pressure group is waging war on the country's all-pervading officialdom.

Most West Germans are resigned to registering and "de-registering" with the police

each time they move house, figuring out official forms and finding their way through the mass of paragraph numbers that makes up the legal system.

"It's a big problem, ranging from official documents that people can't read and forms they don't understand, to laws that even experts find too difficult," Gabriele Brock told Reuters in an interview.

She is administrator for the Society for the Promotion of Administrative Simplification (GFE).

to simplifying.

The GFE does not have to look far for something to do. Adjoining offices in its Bonn government quarter building

are occupied by the imposingly-named General Association for Insurance Finance and the Medical and Social Service for Higher Federal Officials (Area III).

They sound even less inviting in German. One of the language's best-known traits — combining several words into one long one — is perfect for bureaucracy.

Get a phone installed and you are already a *fernrufer* (telecommunications participant).

Even a simple service like a telephone and you can call on the might of the "Bundesverband der Dienstleistungsunternehmen fuer Verpflichtungssysteme" (Federal Association of Service Enterprises for Catering Systems) to look

after your interests.

"What we are after is simplification, for the law not to regulate everything into the smallest details, more chance for the individual to make his own decisions," Brock said.

"We are up against a huge task. Something that has taken decades to develop cannot be abolished overnight."

Germans in any case are great believers in order in public life. Pedestrians wait obediently for a green crossing signal even if no car is in sight. The impatient risk at best disapproving looks, at worst a fine.

Dealing with officialdom causes particular problems for the increasing number of foreigners in West Germany, many of them asylum-seekers from

Poland, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

"They have their own difficulties, especially with the language, but I do not think it is specifically a problem for foreigners," Brock said. "It is a problem for everyone."

"Simplification mafia"

The GFE was founded in 1982 by a group of lawyers, politicians and civil servants who became known in Bonn as the "vereinfachungsmafia" (simplification mafia).

When Helmut Kohl became chancellor, he made it one of his priorities to make life a little simpler for the ordinary form-filing West German.

He set up a parliamentary commission on which the GFE is represented and which aims

to make West German law a little more user-friendly.

Realising the right official can be hard to get hold of, several regional state and city authorities have introduced public hotlines to speed queries to the right officials.

Bonn's "environment line" tells callers where to dump their old motor oil or advises on products for the house and garden that will not harm the environment.

Some offices have responded to public frustration with their 8 a.m. to noon opening hours by introducing a so-called "service evening" once a week so that people who are normally at their own jobs can have access to them.

A GFE questionnaire sent to all state governments asking

which federal laws were particularly awkward, time-consuming or labour-intensive to enforce received a reply from Lower Saxony listing over 60.

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## COLUMN

### A finger for a rape attempt

LOS ANGELES (R) — A Mexican immigrant suspected of attempted rape was arrested after trying to present the victim with part of his little finger as expression of his remorse, police said Tuesday. Yoon Yoon, 34, asked to meet the victim at a fast-food restaurant in Los Angeles Monday night, saying he was sorry for attempting to rape her last month and wanted to give her a present, police said. At the restaurant, police arrested him and seized some letters and a gift-wrapped box containing part of his little finger. "By doing this he wanted to save face. That's what was indicated in the letters," sergeant Alex Salazar said. The ritualistic severing of parts, fingers is common in some Asian secret societies.

### Mother charged for son's rape

LOS ANGELES (R) — The mother of a reputed gang member suspected in the rape of a 12-year-old girl, the first case to be charged under a new anti-gang law in California, a prosecutor said. Gloria Williams, 37, was accused Friday of failing to supervise her 14-year-old son. She faces a maximum sentence of a year in jail under the street terrorism act which makes parents responsible for the criminal acts of their children. "There is evidence not only of a willful lack of parental control on William's part, but that she was actively involved in her son's gang," Los Angeles city attorney James Hahn said. According to the prosecutor, police who searched Williams' home found gang graffiti in her son's bedroom and a photograph in a family album of the boy holding a rifle. Williams, a resident of gang-plagued south central Los Angeles, was also photographed with gang members. Her 19-year-old daughter was shown smiling as she pointed a semiautomatic pistol at the head of a youth, Hahn said. The son has been detained as a suspect in the gang rape of a 12-year-old girl who is alleged to have been sexually assaulted over a period of four days. The street terrorism act passed by California legislators last year includes a package of laws aimed at combating gang activity. Police estimate there are 60,000 gang members in the Los Angeles area.

### Convict named honorary president

LONDON (R) — Students at the London School of Economics voted to keep the killer of a policeman as their honorary president Tuesday. Winston Silcott, serving a life sentence, was elected to the post last week by student supporters of a campaign to prove he was wrongly convicted of murdering constable Keith Blakelock. The students' decision provoked a wave of public anger. Blakelock was fatally beheaded by a machete during a riot at the London housing estate of Broadwater farm in 1985. In return of the election, Silcott was voted by 530 to 305 for Silcott's removal but the ballot failed to achieve the two-thirds majority needed to unseat him. Silcott's election was condemned as "despicable and shameful" by Education Minister Kenneth Baker and by spokesmen for the opposition Labour Party. Conservative Member of Parliament Tony Marlow urged the introduction of rules governing the "moral age as well as the physical age" for acceptability for higher education. "The London School of Economics was at the centre of British student unrest in the 1960s and some students said they feared Silcott's election would dent its restored reputation."

### Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	WIND
AMSTERDAM	03	37	16
ATHENS	13	55	22
BAHRAIN	25	77	31
BANGKOK	27	81	28
BUENOS AIRES	09	48	20
CAIRO	16	51	32
CHICAGO	04	40	10
COPENHAGEN	08	46	14
FRANKFURT	08	43	19
GENEVA	04	38	19
HONG KONG	21	70	23
ISTANBUL	13	55	22
LONDON	12	54	23
LOS ANGELES	14	57	27
MADRID	08	43	19
MEXICO	25	77	43
MIAMI	23	73	31
MONTREAL	09	48	10
MOSCOW	08	46	16
NEW DELHI	26	78	38
NEW YORK	11	52	21
PARIS	06	46	18
ROME	06	46	18
SEOUL	12	54	27
VIENNA	10	50	17